

32

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BOOK

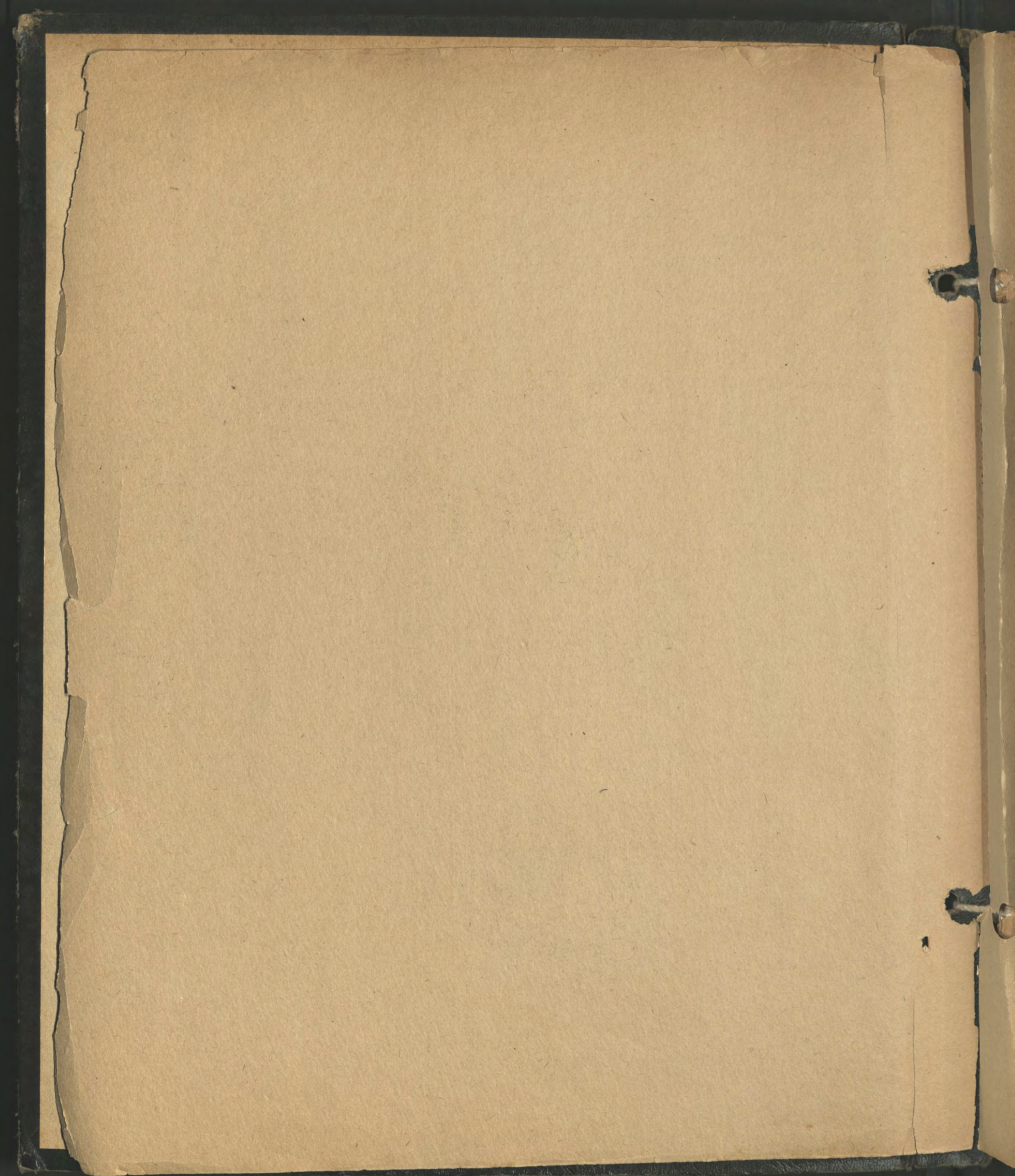
72 - Ma - P.F.M.
#32
Out of Town II
Pocomo through
Wauwinet

Groce Brown Gardner

OUT OF TOWN

II

Pocarno thru Wauwinet



Pocomo

See also Land Book

Pocomo Road to Be Laid Out County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting Wednesday evening and voted to have the road surveyed and properly laid out from Wauwinet road to Pocomo point. This matter was brought up by petition in July, 1925, and a hearing was held thereon, at which there was no remonstrance of any nature whatever. Since then the matter has laid dormant and nothing more was done in connection with the Pocomo road, although in 1925 action was only temporarily suspended.

This week three of the petitioners—Augustus C. Lake, Herbert Jones and William Smith—thought it was high time something was done, so appeared before the board and formally requested that the road be laid out, according to the plans outlined at the hearing nearly two years ago.

The board was favorably inclined and passed an unanimous vote to have the Pocomo road surveyed at once and laid out on the lines of the present road 60 feet wide, extending from the Wauwinet road to Pocomo point. The only change to be made is in the entrance from the Wauwinet road, which is to be placed further up on the grade of the hill, so as to obviate the blind turn and to make the Pocomo road easily entered from either direction. Those who are interested in the drive to Pocomo Head, which is one of the beauty spots on the island, will be glad to know that the County Commissioners have taken final action in the matter.

May 7, 1927

A pleasant surprise party at the home of James H. Gibbs, 2d, at Pocomo, was an affair to be remembered by all who were "in it," it being the anniversary of his birthday. 'Sconset and all Polpis turned out. The gramophone, dancing and a collation were the order of things. Barrett's Orchestra furnished good music.

May 1, 1897

Pocomo was the scene of a pleasant wedding, Wednesday evening, when the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Steingardt was invaded by numerous guests, who were present to witness the marriage of his daughter, Miss Lucy M. Steingardt, to Mr. William S. Backus, of New Bedford. Rev. George E. Brightman performed the ceremony in an impressive manner, and the happy couple afterwards received the congratulations of their friends. They were highly favored with wedding gifts. The newly-wedded pair left here the following morning on the steamer.

Oct. 23, 1886

Commissioners Vote to Lay Out Roads at Pocomo.

The Selectmen met as County Commissioners prior to their regular meeting on Thursday evening. Clerk Fordyce read the record of the last meeting, and also the reports of the public hearings held on Saturday last, Sept. 30, at 'Sconset and Pocomo.

As a result of these hearings, the Commissioners voted to accept the offer of John Salvas for easing the corner at Elbow Lane, in 'Sconset, where the lane changes from a southerly to a westerly direction. It was also voted to accept the offer of Mrs. Emory Buckner of land at the corner of Cottage avenue. This was done with the understanding that Mrs. Buckner's caretaker be allowed to move the hedge. 'Sconset is to have a new lane, to be called Coffin Lane, after Robert Coffin, who lived nearby for many years. This little lane runs only a few feet at the east side or rear of the Post Office.

The northerly end of Elbow Lane is in reality the southerly extension of Broadway, leading to the Bridge. But the Commissioners have now designated the curving length of the thoroughfare also as Elbow Lane. The tree which grows at the corner will not be removed when the corner is widened.

As a result of the hearing at Pocomo, the Commissioners voted to lay out a road from the Pocomo Road, in a north-northeasterly direction, approximately 900 feet; also a road from this aforesaid "Proprietor's Road" along the northerly side of Lot 18B to another "Proprietor's Road," and also to lay out this last-named "Proprietor's Road" to Nantucket Harbor.

Town Counsel Sanguinetti informed the Commissioners he would submit a report on the so-called Meader Street extension at a later date.

Oct. 7, 1950

GUARDIANS SALE.

WILL be sold at Public Auction, by order of the Judge of Probate for the County of Nantucket, on Saturday, the 7th day of April next, in front of the office of Gorham Macy, at 11 o'clock, A. M., all the interest which the minor children of William G. Chase, deceased, have in sixth tenths (undivided) of the farm at Pocomo, now occupied by Francis Chase.

Also, 78 Sheep Commissions in Squam, in share No. 19, called the Eben Calif share.
JOHN C. CONGDON, Guardian
Nantucket, Mch 16—law3w

1855

"Proprietors" Past and Present Offer an Interesting Study.

By Edouard A. Stackpole.

The history of the Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Lands of Nantucket will perhaps never be written. Certainly, no more involved a subject could be selected, and yet it is one that, more than any other, reveals clearly the great changes which have touched and changed Nantucket's outlying land values as of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. By vote of the town, as of 1937, a copy was made of the the existing records of the Proprietors during the period from 1895 to 1927, and a committee appointed for that purpose made its report in 1938, including some pertinent comments on the same.

The committee pointed out that considerable acreage is not on the assessor's books; some acreage is understated and some under-valued; and that the assessors should be aided by extra help; that much of present conditions has been inherited from previous boards of assessors.

There are a number of significant factors in connection with the outlying lands which are not taxed or which belong to owners unknown. In 1834 the competent William Coffin made a survey of the island and announced the acreage totalled 30,590 acres. This was afterwards corrected to 29,500 acres. Including the islands of Muskeget, Tuckernuck, Gravelly Islands as well as Nantucket, this figure today appears to be the most accurate upon which to base any investigation. According to the Assessors' 1938 figure, 24,000 acres are now assessed. The difference of 5,000 acres is disposed of by the explanation that shore erosion has accounted for some 2500 acres, the tax exempt lands (which includes U. S. Government's, the Civic League's, etc.) accounting for much more, and certain sections in Smooth Hummocks, the Plains, Squam, Pocomo and Coskata, which are of owners unknown, accounting for still more. Adding to this the areas of the Great Ponds, and land built up by action of the sea, the missing 5,000 is accounted for, according to the assessors.

Today, the owner of a sheep common owns merely an interest. A sheep common now signifies 1-874 of the common land of the island. The original idea was an acre and a half of land, but as the term is now used, it indicates nothing definite, either in area or value, but means simply a certain undivided fractional part of a very unusual collection of parts of land.

The "Proprietors" is in reality a "closed corporation" inasmuch as it is controlled by a certain number of shares. It is, further, the oldest corporation on the island, and it is controlled by one majority shareholder.

But there is a vast difference between the original Propriety and the "Proprietors" of the present day.

The original Propriety of the Island of Nantucket was never intended to develop into a real estate monopoly. Land held in common for the benefit of the islanders continued to be held as such for a century and a half after the first Proprietors contracted for the land.

There were 27 original Proprietors, and these men had control of approximately 28,000 acres. All the land but that used for house-lots was originally "common land." The whole number of sheep commons at that time was 19,440, each of the 27 Proprietors having approximately 720 sheep commons.

But when the other sections of the island were acquired from the Indians and laid out; each division was divided into 27 equal shares; that is, as nearly equal as the nature of the same would allow, quality and quantity considered. These divisions included Squam, Southeast Quarter, Smooth Hummocks—known as Dividend Land.

The original Proprietors or shareholders soon increased from the first total of 27, by reason of inheritance, as well as by bargain and sale. Few individuals could claim a whole share any more. As the land became cleared the Proprietors had the privilege of stocking each share. Originally the 27 settlers had 720 commons, hence the 19,440 shares. One sheep common was equal to as much land as would furnish acreage for 1 sheep. The original equivalent was an acre and a half for every sheep common. This made the total acreage under control of the Proprietors some 29,000—the entire island—land, swamp, and beach.

Lots were drawn to determine in which share of any new division each man's interest should fall. It might contain one or ten acres, but each common share contained 720 undivided parts, and the common denominator for dividend lands was also 720.

But it must be borne in mind that the house-lot land (homesteads) and the Dividend Land, as before mentioned was not sheep common land. Of the latter each Proprietor owned the same fractional interest as in all the commons.

If a man owned 10 sheep commons of original land, either by inheritance or bargain, he owned 10-19,440ths of the common land; also, he would own 10-720ths of the undivided land, say, for instance, in the Squam division.

For a century and a half the Proprietors refused to set off any of the common land to individuals. Then came the opening wedge.

In 1816 the break came. Obed Mitchell and a number of other rich and powerful islanders, asked for a set-off in the commons at Plainfield at the southeast part of the island. The matter was fought in the courts several years, and finally the Supreme Court of the State allowed the set-offs. Just why the legal bars were let down is a matter for close scrutiny. Up until this time the State had kept a hands-off policy because island lands were under a Propriety granted the islanders at a time when it was a part of New York State. Many influential Proprietors here would have fought the issue more strongly but, in the first place, legal precedent was against any change in the structure of the land here and, secondly, the chief interest of the islanders was in the sea and not on the land—for whaling was paramount. From the time the State's Supreme Court very shortsightedly allowed these set-offs in 1821, to the present day, the ownership of Nan-

tucket's outlying lands has become an involved part of its history.

By the great set-off to Mitchell and others, the number of sheep-commons was reduced to 17,172, and the common denominator became 636 instead of 720—although there were still 27 shares in each division.

In 1821, Smooth Hummocks, Head of Plains, Trott's Hills, etc., were laid out and became Dividend Land. As soon as these divisions were made the Proprietors no longer had any jurisdiction over them.

One of the ancient customs of the early Proprietors was the marking of sheep. Individual owners allowing flocks to graze on the commons together naturally had to have some way of identifying them when shearing time came in the early summer.

The sheep were marked on their ears, and the markings of individual owners were duly recorded in the "Proprietor's Book." No doubt, many were taken from England, where most of the first settlers were born. It is interesting to note the recorded marks. For instance, William Folger, in 1827, recorded his mark as "A Flour-d-Luce in the right ear, half-penny under the left ear." The design mentioned was meant to read "fleur-de-lis" from the French.

On the 28th of 1st month, 1837, Peter Folger recorded:

"Peter Folger bought of George Easton all the sheep which he had at shear time, according to the Collector's Book, which was 140, and lambs belonging to the same, and as Lamb Markers account, and one mark only, that being a cut in the left ear, flour-d-lice in the right. The sheep that are in the slit in the right, and a half-penny under a half-take under the left, are to be taken out of that mark within one year from this date."

Tristram Pinkham recorded the following:

"Crop and slit in the right ear and a half-take under the left, bought at auction from the estate of Christopher Coffin.—20th 6 month, 1821."

George Myrick.—"Half take top the left ear, which devised to him from Peter Coffin's recorded 31 7th month, 1826."

John Cartwright.—"A crop and slit in the left ear, recorded 1st month, 1823."

Matthew Crosby.—"Flower-d-lice in the left, slit in the right and a half penny over the same."

John Barnard.—"Crop in the left ear."

Tristram Coffin, Sr.—"A top cut on both ears."

During the changes that rapidly followed the set-offs and divisions of outlying lands, the Proprietors saw the danger that might result from too close application of the new custom. Consequently, in 1821, they provided for their own safety and the privilege of the public, by laying out a road to the Town Pasture, laying out roads 4 rods wide around all the ponds, and strips of 10 acres between the shares and the shore-beach. These areas or roads were for public use and so designated. There were also roads 4 rods wide laid all around the swamps, all within the several tracts laid out.

In 1846, the State passed a law making it necessary for a public way to require a municipal authority in its lay-out and afterwards to be accepted by the town at a legal meeting. Furthermore the town was required to keep these public ways in repair—or be exposed to damage suits. It is apparent that Nantucket did not accept the roads at any town meeting.

However, previous to 1846, no such liabilities were incurred, and it was at this time that the Proprietors laid out the roads for the use of the public. In those days, public convenience was more the fact that determined the condition of the road, and travelled use completed the acceptance of the road without formality of a vote. In this way most of the streets and ways in Nantucket are established as public ways—all before the Statute of 1846—and it is a waste of energy to lay out and accept them under present legal direction.

The late eminent H. B. Worth once made a statement that there was no evidence that the various strips along the shores or around the ponds and swamps were ever used as travelled ways. This is explained by the fact that rocks and other bounds used were afterwards removed, and surveyors could not locate them.

But roads to the ponds have been existence for centuries, becoming mute evidence of their locations. The shores of the ponds themselves offer tangible enough evidence as bounds for the areas set off around them by the Proprietors.

But as for existing evidence of the other lay-outs made in 1821—does any lawyer expect the cart tracks of the early Proprietors to remain forever as evidence that they used the localities? Can we expect Proprietors' foot-steps to remain imprinted on the island sands of time for visible evidence to satisfy legal perambulation?

The action of the Proprietors in 1821 constituted a dedication of the various ways as public ways, and because they were not accepted as such by legal town meeting is because the law requiring the same was not put on the statute books until 25 years after they were laid out.

In 1840 there was a town law that prohibited carrying fire openly in the streets. How ridiculous it would have been some 25 years later to arrest a man smoking his pipe on Main street. How equally ridiculous it is to superimpose a law passed in 1846 upon an action taken legally in 1821.

The stocking of unfenced land on the commons continued until 1850, when the Field Drivers got busy and instituted legal proceedings. Although the decision was against the town's officials the erection of fences to enclose pasture land followed soon after.

But the great majority of the outlying land acreage remained unfenced until recent years. Farmers would let their cows roam over a large area, with only the ponds at Miacomet and the Hummock, and the Town limits to serve as rough boundaries.

In March, 1903, Cromwell G. Macy and others tried to get Hummock Pond set off to them by the Proprietors as a fish hatchery.

As was the old custom, if a set-off was allowed by the Proprietors, the individual or individuals so favored would transfer his sheep commons (or interest) back into the Proprietary; hence releasing all his rights therein. Usually the swap was all in favor of the individual.

The Proprietors held an important meeting, considered the Macy petition, and decided not to grant the same. There was considerable agitation at the time, and it was finally decided against allowing the set-off.

Mr. Macy and his associates tried to get Miacomet Pond set-off to them, again proposing a fish hatchery. This time the Proprietors were favorable. In line with the old custom, the "lot-layers" decided on the equivalent number of commons the petitioners should be charged, and they decided upon 75 commons. These lot-layers were Robert Coffin, Charles E. Snow, John Harps, and Charles F. Coffin.

At the open meeting which followed, Franklin Folger substituted a total of 90 commons. Thomas G. Macy was of the opinion that 85 would be a better number. It was finally decided on 90 commons.

But Mr. Macy did not consider the proposition worth-while. The Proprietors gave him until August 8, 1903, to make up his mind. He made no appearance and the Proprietors rescinded their original vote allowing the set-off.

At that time seven men controlled 526 shares—and so controlled the 77 individual shareholders' rights. These men were Harold Williams, Sidney Chase, Andrew Myrick, Charles F. Coffin, Robert B. Coffin, Charles E. Snow and Allen Coffin.

Each sheep common then represented 1-874 part of about 2000 acres of commons, swamps and ponds. The Proprietors and their shares were as follows:

Adams, Benjamin	3
Burgess, David W.	1
Barrett, Elizabeth	8
Brock, Joseph C. (estate)	*3 plus
Brock, Walter I.	6
Brock, Albert G.	2
Brock, Annie C.	1
Bacon, John R.	1
Bunker, Lauriston	1
Backus, James A.	1
Chadwick, Charles C.	1
Cook, Emma	1
Coffin, George F.	5 plus
Coffin, Charles F.	2 plus
Coffin, Henry (heirs)	92 plus
Coleman, David R.	5 plus
Coleman, George P.	9 plus
Coffin, Allen	1
Coffin, Robert B.	4 plus
Coffin, Levi	16
Coffin, Prince	27 plus
Cash, Stillman C.	1
Coleman, Ellenwood B.	4
Chase, Sidney	32 plus
Devlan, William T.	73 plus
Easton, Rachel (estate)	3
Folger, Joseph	12
Folger, Peter	10
Flagg, William J. (estate)	34 plus
Folger, Sarah Joy	8 plus
Folger, Isaac H. (estate)	16 plus
Folger, Hiram C.	1
Fisher, Washington I.	1
Folger, Franklin	1
Folger, Horace	2
Greene, F. J. & D. J.	5 plus
Hussey, Andrew G. (estate)	8
Harps, John	1 plus
Hussey, Anna	1
Hussey, Edward B.	3
Hussey, Roland B.	5
Holmes, James A. et al	2
Holmes, McCleave & Co.	1
Joy, Edward F. (estate)	5

Johnson, Eastman	2
Johnson, Elizabeth W.	8
Johnson, Joseph A.	2
Killen, John	1
Lawrence, Edward A.	1
Leil, Frank P.	1
Leil, Jesse P.	1
Macy, Cromwell G.	115
Mowry, Almon T.	1
McCleave, William W.	1
Macy, William H. (estate)	1
Mackay, George H.	3
Mitchell, Joseph 2d, (estate)	1
Mooers, Anna M.	1
Mooers, George E.	5 plus
Myrick, Andrew M.	23 plus
Morris, Edward P.	1
Paddack, Henry	5
Paddack, Paul (estate)	8
Robinson, Charles	20 plus
Snow, Charles E.	18
Snow, Jesse B.	1
Smith, William H. H.	5 plus
Swain, William T.	3 plus
Swain, Alanson (estate)	8
Swain, Valentine (estate)	32
Swain, Mary M. (estate)	3
Taber, Charles C.	1
Town of Nantucket	37
White, Henry K.	2
Winslow, Lydia (estate)	5
Winn, John (estate)	3
Williams, Harold	184

* plus indicates fraction

As a famous American once said: "Let's look at the record!"

In October, 1903, the Proprietors allowed a set-off at Madaket to Robert B. Coffin and Charles E. Snow—4 9-10 acres—charging them 5 sheep commons.

From October 10, 1903, to December 8, 1909, there was a revolutionary change in the career of the Proprietors. Between those two dates Franklin E. Smith, of Boston, secured control of 612 8-15 shares of of the 874. At the December, 1909, meeting of the Proprietors, the petition of Mr. Smith for the set-off of the Burgess Cranberry Company land was considered. Henry B. Worth and Albert G. Brock were appointed lot-layers and reported that the land petitioned for be set off to Mr. Smith.

The land obtained by Mr. Smith by this set-off included the "Beechwood and Norwood Plot," so-called; the "Nevers Swamp Plot;" the "North Head of Long Pond Swamp;" the "Jeremy's Swamp Plot;" the "North Pond Cranberry Swamp;" the "Myrick and Easton Lots."

For the above land the lot-layers charged Mr. Smith only 5 sheep commons.

In March, 1910, a meeting of the Proprietors was called and another petition of Mr. Smith, the majority stockholder, considered. This time he wished to have the "Tom Nevers Plot" and a plot at Wannacomet laid out to him. The Proprietors were present. Of the 640 shares (approximate) represented Mr. Smith owned 607 8-15. A vote was taken on the set-off. Charles E. Snow, Robert B. Coffin, George E. Mooers, and Suel C. Winn voted against it (27 4-5 shares.) Franklin E. Smith, Charles F. Coffin, Horace B. Maglathlin, John Killen, Josiah F. Murphey and Albert G. Brock voted for the set-off (613 7-20 shares).

For the above, Mr. Smith was then charged 1 and 8-15 shares.

At a meeting held March 20, 1912, the Proprietors voted on the petition of Mr. Smith to have land at the west end set off to him. This land was bounded on the north by the Madaket Ditch, on the southeast by Long Pond, on the southwest by the ocean, and on the northwest by Hither Creek.

Proprietors present at the meeting were Franklin E. Smith, 606 shares, Horace B. Maglathlin, 1-3 of a share, Alexander M. Myrick (representing Anna Mooers) 1 share, George E. Mooers, 3 shares, Charles E. Snow, 15 shares, Washington I. Fisher, for Henry Riddell, 1 share, John C. Ring, 1 share, Charles F. Coffin, 1-24 share, and Albert G. Brock, 5 19-24 shares.

It was voted to allow the set-off.

A committee composed of Messrs. Maglathlin and Brock decided that Mr. Smith should be charged 5 sheep commons for the same.

At two subsequent meetings, land was set off to the Prospect Hill Cemetery Association and to the Nantucket Civic League. The latter land was first deeded to the Nantucket Improvement Society, but this organization failed to exist and the land reverted to the Proprietors.

On April 14, 1914, which is the next Proprietors' Meeting on record, a petition was presented from Franklin E. Smith, asking for the set-off of land near the first milestone, bounded on the north by the State Road and on the east by the 1st share of North Pasture, the frontage being 2000 feet and the side east 930 feet, running back to the old railroad embankment.

In the second part of the petition a set-off of the Henry Fay farm on the Pocomo side of Polpis harbor, was also requested by Mr. Smith.

At this meeting the Nantucket Cranberry Company made an appearance as a Proprietor for the first time, its 590 shares being represented by Mr. Smith. Eight other Proprietors or their representatives were present, including Mr. Smith.

A motion to take up the matter by sections was voted down—and then it was voted "by stock vote" to grant the set-offs. A committee formed by Messrs. Maglathlin and Brock adjudged Mr. Smith should be charged 3 sheep commons for the same.

Five years later (October 16, 1919) another Proprietors' Meeting allowed set-offs of land near Saratoga and Vestal streets, and land on the Monomoy Road (8 acres), to Mr. Smith. Only four Proprietors were present at this meeting, but Mr. Smith represented his own 6 shares and the Cranberry Company's 587—hence had 593 out of the 598 present.

Mr. Smith was charged but 2 sheep commons for the same.

The results of subsequent meetings are much the same. Mr. Smith petitioned for set-offs of land in various parts of the island; the Proprietors met and voted to allow the same. In this manner, land at Surfside, Polpis, South Beach, Easy street (so-called), 'Sconset, Madaket, Quidnet, Brant Point, Maxcey's Pond, and other sections were acquired by Mr. Smith.

It is all rather startling, to read the records of the Proprietors' meetings and to grasp the significance of the various land transfers.

The layman is deeply puzzled by the ramifications of the Proprietors' vested rights. How did they they appear in the surveyor's books? Isn't it possible that a very natural mistake has been made in the resurrection of some of this land?

The experience of one of the farmers here is illustrative. In 1918, he purchased 10 acres of woodland from Barzillai S. Coffin at a tax sale. The two years allowed for tax exemption passed, and the land was not reclaimed. In 1923, the heirs of Joseph Mitchell came across a deed which showed that the 10 acres had been sold to him in 1880. Singularly enough Mr. Coffin had paid taxes all through the years to 1918, and the acreage had been assessed to him on the assessors' books. Furthermore, he had been an assessor at one time himself.

If such an incident could take place in regard to outlying land registered and deeded, what untold possibilities present themselves in connection with common lands?

Is it not possible that much of the land claimed by the so-called Proprietors during the past thirty years is land which does not belong to them—as a singular possessor?

In June, 1922, Mr. Smith called a meeting of the Proprietors and asked to have set off to him various sections

of land in different parts of the island. Present were Mr. Smith, representing 527 shares of the Nantucket Cranberry Company and his own 51 shares, Josiah F. Murphey representing 1 share, Albert G. Brock representing 1 3-4 shares and Miss Emma Cook representing 1 share.

Under Article F of the petition, Mr. Smith wanted a set-off of land near the Wannacomet Water Works, east, southeast and south of Maxcey's Pond. In the description given, the rights of the public were acknowledged as to roads in the vicinity—but nothing is said about the "Forefathers' Burial Plot" on the hill, included in the area. No doubt, in this century, the rights of the singular Proprietors may even be construed to include burial plots.

The Land Court is of comparatively recent origin when the venerable Proprietors are concerned. And among the strange facts in connection with all the Land Court titles registered over Nantucket land is that the only map used for purpose of locating the land was one drawn up in 1860.

Confusion is justifiable under the circumstances. Many questions remain to be asked, and examination of the Proprietors' Records for the past forty years record only bare transactions. Naturally, before the Land Court's existence, land was declared legally owned if and when recorded at the local Registry, and another confusing possibility appears in the prospect that all the land claimed by the Proprietors (20th century claims) might have been at one time owned by an individual.

The most unusual affair of the Cliff Bathing Beach, a few years ago, brought the attention of the average taxpayer to the Proprietors and its claims to beach land built up along-shore by the action of nature. The land was claimed by Mr. Smith for the Proprietors. The case was settled out of court because the majority of the voters believed it cheaper to do so.

But the fact remains that the book of "Proprietors' Records" published by the Town needs to be interpreted.

It was on July 2, 1659, that Nantucket was sold by Thomas Mayhew, "of Martin's Vineyard, merchant," who sold it to Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy Christopher Hussey, Richard Swain, Thomas Barnard, Peter Coffin, Stephen Greenleaf, John Swain and William Pile.

Several months later the first purchasers met in the house of Benjamin Campbell in Salisbury, Mass., where they all resided, and decided on the settlement of the island. That council was the basis for the formation of the Common and Undivided Lands. The record reads:

"At a meeting of the purchasers, or the major part of them, approved of and allowed by the rest, together with some others that was owned for Associates, as will hereafter appear; it was agreed and Determined and approved as follows, vizt that the ten owners will admit of Ten more partners whom have shall Liberty to take a partner whom he pleases not being justly Excepted against by the rest. At that meeting Robert Pike was owned partner with Christopher Hussey, Robert Barnard was owned partner with Thomas Barnard, Edw'd Starbuck was owned to be Thomas Macy's partner, and Tristram Coffin jur partner with Stephen Greenfeal, James Coffin with Peter Coffin.

At the same meeting it was mutually and Unanimously agreed upon, determined and concluded that no man whatsoever shall purchase any land of any of the Indians upon the said Island for his own private or particular use, but whatsoever purchase shall be made shall be for the general account of the Twenty owners or purchasers, and whatsoever person shall purchase any Land upon any other account it shall be utterly void and null except what is done by Leave from the said owners or purchasers.

At the same meeting it was ordered and Determined that there shall be ten other Inhabitants admitted into the Plantation who shall have such Accommodation as the owners or purchasers shall judge meet—as namely necessary, tradesmen and seamen."

A number of other partnerships were likewise formed. John Smith was chosen partner with Thomas Mayhew, Nathaniel Starbuck with Tristram Coffin, Sr., Thomas Look with Richard Swain, Thomas Coleman with John Swain, and Thomas Mayhew, Sr., with Thomas Mayhew, Jr. Others to join the group were Peter Folger and John Bishop. History records the fact that several of these purchasers or Proprietors either never came here or did not remain long if they did reside here for a while. The Mayhews, of course lived on the Vineyard and had only shares in the island, which they disposed of over a period of year.

Joseph Gardner and Richard Gardner and Joseph Coleman were soon after admitted to the company with certain restricted rights. William Bunker, a miller, was invited to join. These were called "half shares" men, as were a number of others who followed them.

The chief Indian sachem on Nantucket was Wannacmamack, and he in 1661 sold half of the island to the Proprietors for £10. Later he gave a separate deed for the remainder. During the next few years, however, the minor chieftians had to be satisfied and numerous deeds were given by them to the whites.

On July 15, 1661, at a meeting on Nantucket, of the owners, purchasers and inhabitants, "Mr. Thomas Mayhew being present and Peter Folger, "it was agreed and concluded that each man of the owners or purchasers shall have liberty to Chuse his House Lot at any place within the Limits not formerly Taken up and that each House Lot shall contain Sixty Rods square to a whole accommodation or share or the value of it."

Soon after Nantucket, together with Martha's Vineyard, passed into the possession of the New York colony, a number of the new settlers, called the "half-shares" men, were able to stir up considerable trouble. The temporary seizure of the New York government by the Dutch in 1673 gave these "half share" men a chance to throw off the contract made with the first settlers, and the outbreak of King Philip's War on the mainland added further confusion.

It was shortly after the two factions finally combined their interests that the now famous "Dongan Patent" was granted by Governor Dongan of New York. It made its appearance in 1687. This patent granted the "Liberty and right of purchase to the island" to John Gardner, James Coffin, William Gayer, Peter Coffin, Nathaniel Barnard, Stephen Hussey, and John Macy, "Trustees of the freeholders and Commonality of the Towne of Sherborn and their Successors forever."

Under this Patent the freeholders were made a body corporate and politic, with power to elect officers and to govern themselves after the style of the English manor. Hence the legal entry of the Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Lands.

But the tangled affairs of the British crown added new miseries. James II abdicated, and in 1691 the thrones of William and Mary became the ruling power. Now the Massachusetts Bay Colony made demands—and the island found itself back under the jurisdiction of this colony. But the rights and privileges granted under the Dongan Patent came along with its transfer from New York to Massachusetts.

Under vote of the town, January 5, 1704, "We the purchasers, Inhabitants, freeholders and Joynt Commoners of all the Common and undivided Lands on Nantucket, according to their shares and proportions," confirmed the granting of the Dongan Patent together with all laws passed by their trustees.

During the next century not much is found in relation to the Proprietors. The growth and development of the whale-fishery; the French and Indian Wars; the Revolution and its aftermath; the migrations from the island; and the War of 1812, kept the attention of the Selectmen and other officials on the dangers all about the island. It was not until the "Sheep War" of 1816 that the Proprietors occupied the center of the stage.

At that time the great majority of the influential and interested islanders never realized that a few of their number intended to break the strong chain of the old order. When realization came it was too late.

Interesting Sidelight on History Of Nantucket's Lands.

A recent publication of the Byron Weston Company's little pamphlet called the *Linen Record* contained a very interesting little article on some of the phases of Nantucket's lands. It is well illustrated with a map of the island as a background for the title "How'd You Like to Register Title to Thirty-Three Sheeps Commons of Land?" and pictures of the "plat of Tuckernuck," a registry book, and views of the Old Mill, Sankaty Light and the Oldest House.

Acknowledgment was made for the courtesies shown to the writer by Register of Deeds Josiah Barrett, Register of Probate John Gardner, and the Clerk of Courts Francis E. Folger. The article reads as follows:

"Thirty-three sheeps commons and two-thirds of a sheep-common—that is the land unit in the unique 150-year old records from the Island County of Nantucket. What it signifies and why makes a fascinating story.

"Know all men by these presents that I Batchelor Hussey of Nantucket in the County of Nantucket in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Merchant; For and in Consideration of Two Hundred & Sixty Dollars, paid me by Obed Mitchell of Nantucket in the County & Commonwealth Aforesaid Merchant, the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge Do hereby Give Grant Sell and Convey unto the said Obed Mitchell and to his heirs and assigns forever. To say such a Right and privilege upon the Island of Nantucket as will keep or pasture Thirty-three sheep and two-thirds of a Sheep. According to the present stint or Regulation of the Commons, amongst the proprietors of Nantucket. That is to say the feeding right and Undivided Land belonging to Thirty-three Sheeps Commons & two thirds of a Sheeps Commons. Also Including the same proportion or part of Share in them Divisions of Land Lately Laid out Called the South East quarter Squam Paucomoo and Coscata, which proportion of a share is what is called four Cows Commons and one Sheep Commons and Two Thirds over. Allowing Eight Sheep to one Cow, which Interest I bought of Taccheus Gardner and Jonathan Gardner, as may be seen by the Records. And is in the Gardners Share, with all the privileged and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining."

"The above entry is taken from the volume pictured. And here is another, dated 1789:

"Ninety-two and a half Sheeps Commons upon the Island of Nantucket Likewise the planting Rite of Eight Sheeps Commons More;..... together with all the Sheep and Lambs Now running on s'd Commons Marked; a Crop in the left Ear & a half-penny under itt & a half take under the Right Ear: Likewise Marked a Crop in the Left Ear a half penny under and over said Ear & a half penny upon said Ear; Said Marks are hereby Conveyed with s'd Sheep."

"Lest you assume that land so described had no definite and legal boundary or valid title let us assure you that such is not the case. Nantucket's land history is no less unique than the history of her proud and rugged people.

"Credit for the discovery of the island is usually given to Capt. Bartholomew Gosnold in 1602. The English right was later acquired by Thomas Mayhew, who deeded the land to ten proprietors in 1659. Here is the story of the land division as clearly described by William H. Macy, for many years Register of Deeds:

"A Sheeps Common signified as much land as would furnish commonage or pasturage for a sheep. Its original equivalent seems to have been an acre and a half of land. All the land except such pieces as were set aside for homesteads and designated as house-lot land was held in common by the 27 original proprietors, each man's share approximating 720 commons for sheep. When at a later period certain large tracts of land were laid out to form divisions, designated by such names as Squam Southeast Quarter, Smooth Hummocks, etc., each division was divided into 27 shares as nearly equal in size as possible, quality and quantity considered.

"When these divisions were finally laid out the number of proprietors was no longer 27 as it was constantly increasing by inheritance as well as by bargain and sale and few individuals could claim a whole share in any one of the divisions; but each share was supposed to contain 720 undivided parts and each land owner owned the same fractional interest in one of those shares as in a full share of all the common lands.

"Lots were drawn to determine in what particular share of the new division each man's interest should fall. The whole might contain one acre or fifty according to the extent of the division laid out but 720 was the constant denominator and a man who owned 45 sheeps commons of the original land would also be owner of 45-720ths undivided of a certain share in Southeast Quarter and so in the several divisions as they were successively laid out. For more than 150 years all the land except the house-lot land was thus owned in common. A sheeps common, then, signified 1-19.440 of all the common land."

"The Proprietors formed themselves into an organization under the name *The Proprietors of the Common & Undivided Lands of Nantucket*, held meetings and kept records separate from the deed records. Whenever any individual asked for a piece of land, specifying how much and in what locality, it was customary if his petition was granted for the Proprietor's agents or lot-layers to set off the land to him for which he was then charged a certain number of Sheeps Commons, the valuation being subject to the approval of the meeting, *quality and quantity considered*. The number of Sheeps Commons thus charged was subtracted from his former interest, and thus much of the common land was gradually absorbed."

"If space permitted we'd like to quote many more pages from these rich records of the past.

"Tuckernuck Island, a small 'satellite' island of Nantucket, was recorded in 1794 by Nathaniel Coleman, Register. The ancient volume shows a map of the island on a right-hand page, with the existing holdings of the eight shares which were drawn by lot as set forth in the lower left hand column, and the record:

"We the Subscribers being Chosen by the Proprietors of the Island of Tuckanuck to Lay the said island into Eight Shares and Accordingly we have Done it as ye plat here Sot forth with the Numbers of the Shares & Every man's name with the Number of Sheeps Commons against Every man's Name as they own.—Nantucket, ye 17th day of 6 mo., 1780, signed by David Coffin, Joseph Coffin, Richard Mitchel, Junior."

"So far as we can discover the first Register of Deeds to be distinguished as such was appointed in 1721, the record of the meeting stating: 'Elezer Folger is chosen Rejester for this Countey to Rejester all deeds for ye space terme of five years.' It is interesting to note that a descendant of Eleazer, Francis E. Folger, is the present Clerk of Courts.

"At the same 1721 meeting Benjamin Bunker was 'chosen and appointed to kill all ye doggs on ye island of Nantucket & ye town will pay him for his pains.'

"Up to 1745 there appears to have

been no attempt to separate the early town records from those of the county and of the Proprietors, the three being somewhat bewilderingly entangled. Early volumes contain deeds and court records, all in the same book.

"The middle of the 18th century saw Nantucket rise to its greatest peak of prosperity as the center of the great whaling industry which later drifted to New Bedford.

"Thirty miles at sea, Nantucket is today a summer playground of unforgettable charm, combining historic tradition with every facility for recreation.

"Friendliest and warm-hearted of people the staunch Island spirit may be best expressed by the following anecdote:

"When Governor Ames of Massachusetts came to the Island for the purpose of marrying an estimable Nantucket lady he was accosted by a native who asked him, without knowing who he was, if he had come down to the wedding. 'Whose wedding?' inquired the Governor. 'Why Anna Ray's,' was the reply. 'She's a Coffin, you know, but he is nothing but an off-islander'."

Nantucket Island—A Study By Austin Strong.

(written for the Writer's War Board)

In the autumn the wild flight of sea and land birds starts on scheduled time. Down from the frozen north, from Hudson's Bay and Newfoundland, come the roseate tern, golden plover, black duck and curlew with all their cousins and their aunts. Small aristocratic groups, like the gaggles of wild geese, keep perfect military alignment high in the sky, while the smaller fowl skim the surface of the waves flying in straggly formations frantically obeying the urge to get to their winter quarters in Brazil and far-away Patagonia.

They follow unerringly their established course to the St. Lawrence River, across Nova Scotia, then down the grim coast of Maine. Here they break up into smaller companies as they sweep toward the beckoning finger of Cape Cod and out to sea, where they sight what Herman Melville called "that elbow of sand" lying on the surface of the dark blue water.

This is the Island of Nantucket, shaped like a man lying on his side, knees drawn up to chin, his broad back to the eternal pounding of the Atlantic surf. Within the curve of his shoulder he holds the Town, a huddle of fog-grey houses, and protects them from the winter rages which bawl and burst their cheeks in vain. The North and South churches sit like two proud, stately hens keeping guard over their broods, which cluster close about them to gather strength and comfort against the loneliness of sea and sky.

The rest of the Island is made up of rolling moors and a few clusters of weather-beaten trees. Bayberry, clethra, wild grape, beach plum and wild flowers sweeten the summer air. For miles around hidden shoals of shifting sands make secret ramparts which tear the great seas into devil-broths, perilous waters for undersea marauders.

One morning a flight-commander bird signalled his migrating squadron. It circled wide, exploded in the sky and came shivering down like silver confetti glinting in the sun to settle on the beaches and the many ponds. The leader bird, the last to alight, chose the Town and came delicately to rest on the truck of the flagpole on top of William Rotch's counting house, built in 1772, a red brick building where his chartered ships made history by bringing the tea from England to Boston to make the famous Tea Party.

William Rotch was a Quaker and a great merchant in his day; it was he who went to plead for the Nantucket Friends who settled in Dunkirk at the request of Louis XVI to teach the French the whaling industry. The Revolution made it imperative that they go to Paris and present to the National Assembly in 1791 "a petition to that Body for some privileges connected with our religious principles."

"The hour was come for presenting it," wrote William Rotch in his Memorandum (written in his eightieth year). "The Galleries for Spectators were filled, and many could not be accommodated, nor did we wonder at their curiosity, considering the novelty of the Object. . . . After the reading was concluded President Mirabeau read his answer."

One can see the big, pock-marked cynical face of Mirabeau smiling down on the little group of plain folk who stood in quiet dignity before the great Assembly.

"Quakers," he said, "a citizen must adopt a form of government, but as a thinking Being, the Universe is his country. The Assembly will in its wisdom consider all your requests. But whenever I meet a Quaker I shall say, 'My brother, if thou hast a right to be free, thou hast a right to prevent anyone from making thee a slave. As thou lovest thy fellow-creature, suffer not a tyrant to destroy him; it would be killing him thyself.' The Assembly invites you to attend its sitting."

It was William Rotch's ship *Bedford* which made history by being the first vessel to carry the flag of the United States into a British port.

Flicking his tail, the leader bird teetered a moment to steady himself, then neatly folded his immaculate wings and stared down into the cobble Square with a yellow, unblinking eye. He looked through the tall elm trees which, meeting overhead, made a cathedral aisle up to the curved steps of the Pacific Bank, from whose roof a little girl was once shown the stars by her banker father. Through a brass telescope Maria Mitchell first beheld the world she was to make her own. She lived to be a great astronomer and to discover a comet by telescope, to the delight of the King of Denmark who presented her with a medal of gold.

The Square is named in honor of Thomas Turner, a son of Nantucket who served with America's first admiral, Paul Jones, who sent to the Island for his best seamen. Thomas Turner served him and his country well, giving up his life on the deck of the *Bon Homme Richard* where he was killed in action when they con-

quered His Britannic Majesty's ship *Serapis* on September 23rd, 1777. Turner Square is in the center of the Town, where all roads end and aristocratic Main Street makes her proud entrance, leaving her stately mansions and their gardens in care of the Civil War Monument.

The sea-bird shifted his weight from one foot to the other and ruffled his feathers, undisturbed by the booming of the Papist bell in the tower of the Unitarian Church. Captain Cary, a public-spirited whaling master, bought the bell in Lisbon and had it hung in the gold-capped tower of the South Church, where for over a hundred and twenty-five years this good Catholic, blessed by none other than the patriarch of Lisbon, has called the tolerant Unitarians to worship.

William Rotch's counting house became the Custom House and the two rooms with their deep-set windows were taken over by whaling masters who had hunted sperm-whales in the South Seas. They called it the Pacific Club and though they have all gone, the "Captain's Room," as it is sometimes called, is carefully preserved just as they left it.

A wooden whale with a red mouth stares down with a rogue's eye as it hangs from the ceiling. On the walls are fastened boat-steerers' lances, harpoons, blubber cutting-spades, ship's sextants, parallel rulers, charts with ancient thumb stains of whale grease, mahogany rods for measuring the oil in barrels, pictures of sailing ships, some painted with painful accuracy by Chinese artists in Hong Kong. One grim relic rests on brackets over the door, a harpoon twisted into a giant corkscrew by the death flurry of an agonized whale off French Rock, New Zealand.

A daguerreotype of a group of Nantucket captains, taken on a visit to New York in 1860 to inspect the Great Eastern, hangs framed on the south wall; the stern disciplined faces stare out into the changing present, mute witnesses of an heroic past.

"Gives me a queer feeling to be sitting in this room, the last sailing-ship captain on this old Island," said Captain Whitford Joy, just before his death a decade ago. "From the start I didn't hope, I knew I was going to be a master. My only idea was to wear a tall beaver hat, a shiny black coat and carry a whale-bone cane, same as the old captains who used to sit in these chairs around this pot-bellied stove. As a boy I looked into these windows. Nothing ever touched them in my mind before or after. They were the kings of this world. And how they knew it first hand! Bering Straits, the Sea of Japan, the Indian Ocean, Archangel, the Bay of Islands, and every port in South America. Nantucket had the first news from all countries and they would hear it from the incoming whalers after their two to four years' wanderings."

So far progress has spared Nantucket; so far that robot-eyed monster has not kicked over her monuments, torn up her cobbles, blackened her face with soot, nor stamped out her heart with cinders, noise and factory whistles. The old Town, smiling and triumphant, is still fresh, distinguished, beautiful with her gray houses, her white captains' walks and church towers "Bosomed high in tufted trees."

I have often wondered what has become of all the words the whalemen spoke during those interminable voyages. Science hints that some day we may be able to tap the ether and hear the original Gettysburg speech. I would like to turn the dials back to a star-filled night on a lonely sea in Southern Grounds or up north under the dim, horn-colored Arctic dawn and listen to the crews huddled in their tiny fo'castles, talking and talking of Fair Street, of Traders' Lane, Crown Court, Gull Island and India Row.

Perhaps these words have come back to hover over the Town. Sometimes one can almost hear them when the tides shift, making the harbor suddenly restless, excited, and the waters talkative. Perhaps the leader bird on top of the flagpole is the soul of a whaling captain long since dead who could not resist the urge to halt for a while and look again at the Little Gray Lady as the Island was called by whalemen.

With a scream like a rusty hinge, the bird spread his wings and rose high into the sky calling his squadron. Together they circled the Town, dipped a salute and flew into the blue on their long, strong flight.

PROPRIETORS

Of the Common and Undivided Lands of Nantucket, and the Sheep Commons Each Represents Some Interesting Facts in Connection With the Common and Undivided Lands of the Island.

There now remain but 874 43-75 sheep commons out of the original 19,440, representing the common and undivided lands of Nantucket, the rest having been cancelled by set-off of lands to individuals, who have surrendered such number of sheep commons for the lands acquired as the lot layers from the Proprietors have deemed as equitable. These 874 43-75 commons represent the total of the undivided lands, including (as claimed by some) the great ponds of the island, excepting Long Pond, which was ceded to the town in 1841. From time to time interest in these outlying lands is awakened by some proprietor making application for a set-off.

Just at the present time, while there is a petition pending of Cromwell G. Macy and others for "the land under and beneath Hummock pond" to be set off to them, considerable interest has been aroused. This petition was given hearing by the Proprietors last Saturday afternoon at the office of the Registry of Deeds, and it is a very long period since there has been such a large turnout of the Proprietors as were then present; and it is probable, had a stock vote been necessary, that it would have developed that nearly every interest was represented.

The meeting chose A. T. Mowry as moderator. Clerk Lauriston Bunker read the call, and the petition was considered at length. It appeared that the petitioner's object is to secure some concerted action to have the Hummock pond developed as a fishery. It was stated that they were prepared to pool their interests with any others to this end, without disturbing the privileges the public had always enjoyed for hand-line fishing. There was a division of sentiment against "setting-off" the pond to the petitioners, until some more definite plan was brought forward. The meeting finally appointed, by a vote of 11 to 10, a committee, consisting of the lot layers, to look into the matter of the value of the pond, as represented in sheep commons, and report to the meeting three weeks hence. The meeting was then adjourned.

This meeting has created renewed interest among the proprietors, many of whom have always been earnest advocates of having the ponds set apart for propagating food fishes; and some have taken the ground that the value of the ponds exceeds that of the lands owned in common by three times, and there is no doubt much truth in the statement.

The sheep commons now extant, according to the clerk's record up to April 1st, 1903, are held by 77 individuals (estates included as individuals), and seven of this number represent a total of 526 227-300 commons.

The seventy-seven owners and their holdings are given in the following list:

Adams, Benjamin S.	3
Burgess, David W.	1
Barrett, Elizabeth	8
Brock, Josiah C., Estate of	3 19-24
Brock, Walter I.,	6 19-24
Brock, Albert G.	2
Brock, Annie C.,	5
Bacon, John R.,	1
Bunker, Lauriston,	1
Backus, James A.,	1
Chadwick, Charles C., heirs of	1
Cook, Emma	1
Coffin, George F.,	5 1-3
Coffin, Charles F.,	2 13-24
Coffin, Henry, heirs of	92½
Coleman, David R.,	5 5-16
Coleman, George P.,	9 5-16
Coffin, Allen	1
Coffin, Robert B.,	4½
Coffin, Prince, estate of	27 7-10
Coffin, Levi S.,	16
Cash, Stillman C.,	1
Coleman, Ellenwood B.,	4
Chase, Sidney	32½
Devlan, William T.,	13 1-3
Easton, Rachel, estate of	3
Folger, Josiah, estate of	12
Folger, Peter, estate of	10
Flagg, William J., estate of	34 84-100
Folger, Sarah Joy	8 47-60
Folger, Isaac H., estate of	16 3-20
Folger, Hiram C.,	0 2-5
Fisher, Washington L.,	1
Folger, Franklin	1
Folger, Horace	2
Greene, Frederick J. and	
David J.,	5½
Hussey, Andrew G., estate of	8
Harps, John	1¾
Hussey, Anna	1
Hussey, Edward B.,	3
Hussey, Roland B.,	5
Holmes, James A., et al	2
Holmes, McCleave & Co.	1
Joy, Edward F., estate of	4 11-24
Johnson, Eastman	1¼
Johnson, Elizabeth W.,	8
Johnson, Joseph A.,	2
Killen, John	1
Lawrence, Edward A.,	1
Leel, Frank P.,	1
Leel, Jesse P.,	1
Macy, Cromwell G.,	114 55-60
Mowry, Almon T.,	1
McCleave, William W.,	1
Macy, William H., estate of	0 1-3
Mackay, George H.,	3
Mitchell, Joseph, 2nd, estate of	1
Moors, Anna M.,	1
Moors, George E.,	5 7-40
Myrick, Andrew M.,	23 1-6
Norcross, Edward P.,	1
Paddack, Henry	5
Paddock, Paul, estate of	8
Robinson, Charles H.,	20½
Snow, Charles E.,	18
Snow, Jesse B.,	1
Smith, William H. H.,	5
Swain, William T.,	3 5-13

Swain, Alanson, estate of	8
Swain, Val. J., estate of	32
Swain, Mary M., estate of	3
Taber, Charles C.	1
Town of Nantucket	37
White, Henry K.,	2
Winslow, Lydia, estate of	5½
Winn, John, estate of	3
Williams, Harold	183 13-14

Much interest has been awakened in matters in connection with the proprietorship of the island since the meeting of last Saturday, and there have been many inquiries as to the real meaning of the term "sheep common." Therefore, for the benefit of our younger readers and such others as may be interested to know, we quote the following from Macy's History of Nantucket which bears upon this point and also from an article on the same subject in Godfrey's history, by W. H. Macy:

"It was agreed by the proprietors, as we may now style them, that the privilege of stocking to each share, should be limited by the extent of the land cleared; and that each proprietor should stock his own, at his own election, allowing eight sheep to be equal to one neat beast, and two neat beasts to one horse. As the land became more cleared, the privilege of stocking was extended to each share until it amounted to seven hundred and twenty sheep, or other stock in the proportion above stated. Thus the stocking privilege of the proprietors collectively amounts to twenty-seven times seven hundred and twenty or nineteen thousand four hundred and forty sheep,—or two thousand four hundred and thirty neat beasts,—or one thousand two hundred and fifteen horses,—or to a part of each according to the interest or convenience of each proprietor."

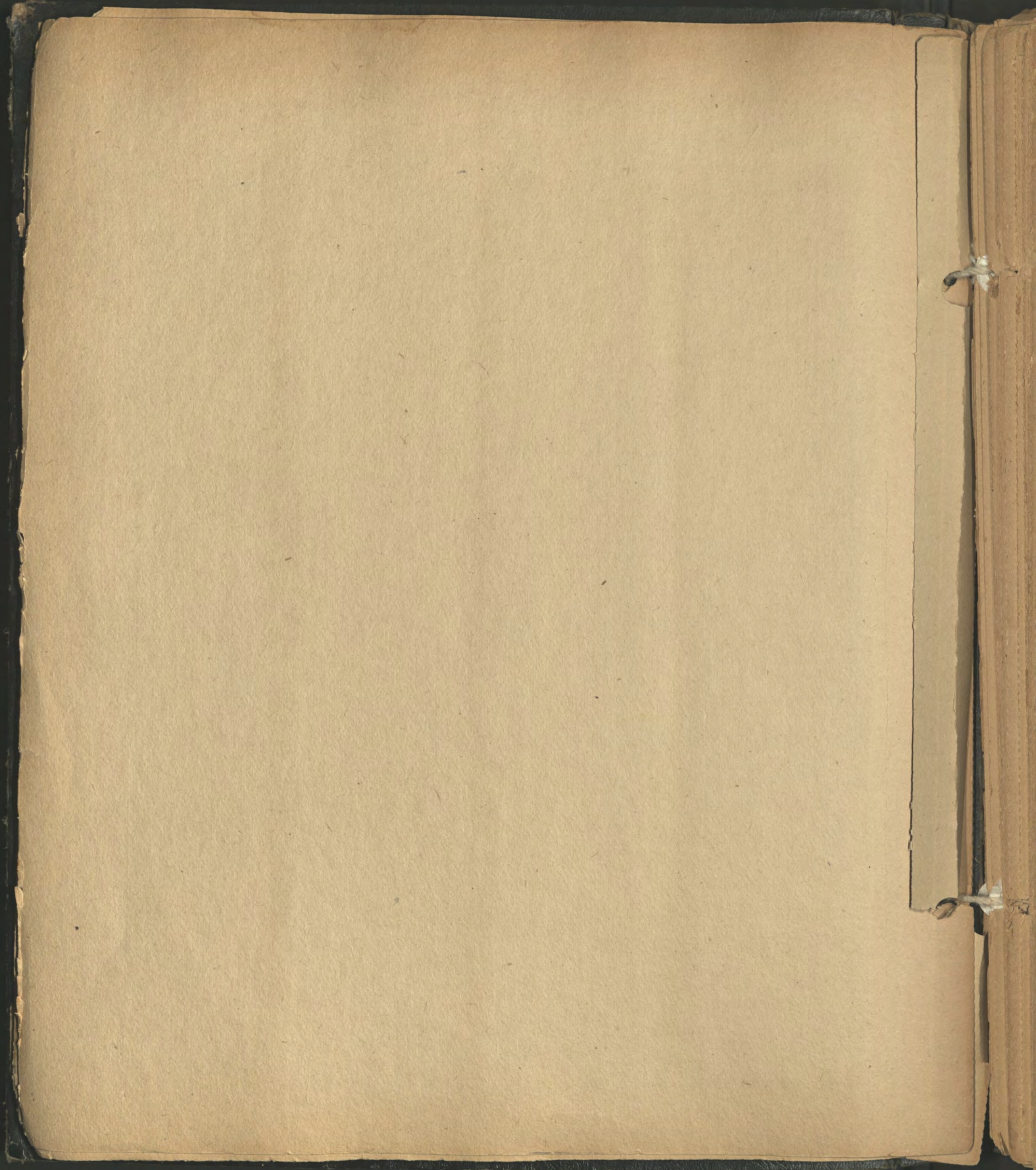
The common land system of Nantucket is somewhat puzzling to those who have had no occasion to study it; and even the average native of the island, when asked what a sheep common means, appears to have no definite or clear idea on the subject. An elaborate article on this theme would possess little interest to the general reader, but a few words may not be amiss, to give an outline of the meaning of the terms "sheep common" and "cow common."

As might be supposed, a sheep common as used by the early settlers signified as much land as would furnish commonage or pasturage for a sheep. Its original equivalent seems to have been an acre and a half of land. In the olden time all the land, except such pieces as were set aside for homesteads, and designated as "house-lot land," was held in common by the twenty-seven original proprietors. Estimating the whole extent of available land in round numbers at about 29,000 acres, each man's share would be 730 commons for sheep. The product of 720 times 27 equals 19,440, which represents the whole number of sheep commons at the outset. When at a later period certain large tracts of land were laid out to form "divisions," and designated by names such as "Squam," "Southeast Quarter," "Smooth Hummocks," etc., each division was divided into twenty-seven shares as nearly equal in size as the nature of the case would admit,—quality and quantity considered. When these divisions were laid out, the number of proprietors was no

longer twenty-seven, as it was constantly increasing by inheritance as well as by bargain and sale, and few individuals could claim a whole share in any one of the divisions; but each share was supposed to contain seven hundred and twenty undivided parts, and each land-owner owned the same fractional interest in one of these shares as in a full share of all the common lands. Lots were then drawn to determine in what particular share of the new division each man's interest should fall. The share might contain one acre, or it might contain fifty acres, according to the extent of the division laid out; but 720 was the constant denominator, and a man who owned, say, forty-five sheep commons of the original land, or more correctly 45-19,440 of the common land, would also be the owner of 45-720, undivided, of a certain "share in Southeast Quarter;" of a certain other "share in Squam;" and so on in the several divisions as they were successively laid out. All the land of the island excepting house-lot land was owned in this manner, whether used for planting or stocking purposes—the several proprietors of each share holding it in common and undivided, and buying and selling only undivided

Continued on Second Page

—A HEARING on the Nantucket lands was recently had before the House Judiciary Committee, and H. B. Worth, Esq., of New Bedford, made a statement concerning the uncertain tenures of lands in the following several divisions of Nantucket known as Maddaket, Great Neck, Smooth Hummocks, Maddaket Swamps, Trott's Hills, Plains, Head of the Plains, Woods, Maddaket Salt Meadows, South East Quarter, North Pasture, Middle Pasture, Gibbs' Swamp, Shimmo, Peat Swamps, Beach Shares of 1805, Squam and Pocomo, and Koskata, and urged the reporting of a bill requiring all persons owning in such divisions, within two years, to claim, identify, and pay taxes on the same, otherwise the land shall be considered as belonging to the occupant, and if unoccupied to escheat to the town of Nantucket. Mr. Worth stated that nearly all of the parties interested were in favor of the proposed bill.



"A Nest of Love Disturbed" On Nantucket.

For more than a century there has been agitation of various kinds and temperaments in relation to the "Common and Undivided Lands of Nantucket." The controversy continues to this day, with the "proprietary" now vested in the corporation known as the "Nantucket Cranberry Company," in Franklin E. Smith, and a few scattering owners of "sheep commons." As the shores of the island and of its ponds have gradually passed into control of private ownership, the public has seen many of its former rights and privileges pass away until now cottagers and property owners on various parts of the island have acquired ownership to the water and the privileges of the public seem to have passed away.

The controversy that was started more than a century ago still exists, but not anywhere near as keen as it was at one time. When the little booklet, "A Nest of Love Disturbed," first came into our possession about twenty years ago, we could find no one who ever heard of such a publication. There was no record of it anywhere, so we asked the late Henry B. Worth, an authority on Nantucket lands and deeds, if he ever heard of the booklet. He gave a negative reply as follows:

"Such a pamphlet never came to my attention before. From the date and the subject I suspect that it relates to the great controversy which existed in the early part of the 19th century between Richard Mitchell and the Proprietors of Common Lands. This was a bitterly fought controversy and aroused deep interest among Nantucket people. The decision was in favor of Mitchell and may have been rendered some time later. This may have been the occasion of the publication, 'A Nest of Love Disturbed,' but I cannot understand why such a strange name was selected. The pamphlet is not only interesting but valuable historically, arranged as it is in a series of questions and answers pertaining to a situation that has stirred up keen agitation on Nantucket for generations."

Believing that "A Nest of Love Disturbed" will make interesting reading at this time, we are re-printing it herewith, exactly as it was issued in pamphlet form in 1811, covering a series of questions and answers.

A Nest of Love Disturbed or The Farmer's Dialogue.

The substance of a discourse that passed between two persons respecting Nantucket, one being a proprietor in common, the other not, when the latter propounded the following questions and observations, to which the proprietor replied, both in the order in which they are now stated.

Q. Observing a Petition in the Columbian Centinel, of several merchants, &c., for a severance of their proportion of lands from the body of the proprietor in common, alleging that as it was now owned and improved, it produced little or no profit.—Please to indulge me with an account of the settlement of Nantucket, and why six thousand inhabitants should be so attached to a spot so sterile as not to benefit its owners?

A. The island of Nantucket is about fourteen miles long, and three and an half wide, except a long sandy point of several miles in length projecting northward from the northeast part of the island; near the end of which stands a lighthouse built by the state in 1784, and granted to the United States in 1790, which is one of the best lights in the Union, and no one more beneficial to the community, as it stands in a conspicuous situation to vessels passing up and down the sound on the north side of the island.

There is one other lighthouse on the point at the entrance of the harbour, supported by the government. Previous to its settlement by white people, it was inhabited by about three thousand Indians, who they found to be a kind, benevolent people ready to render the whites all the assistance in their power; but nevertheless, subject to the same passions as the natives in other places.

They informed the first settlers that the Indians of the west end of the island had lately been at war with those at the east end, which was terminated in a great measure by fixing bounds to extend from the north to the south side of the island, and if either intruded by crossing the line they were immediately put to death. At length, the King of the west married the daughter of the King of the east end of the island, which put a period to the war; and they afterwards lived in peace and harmony with each other, until they became contaminated by the use of rum introduced among them by the whites, which led them sometimes to manifest a ferocious disposition, and to threaten to exterminate the whites from the island.

They complained that their land was unfairly purchased, and in some instances wrested from them without being purchased, of which the purchasers endeavored to convince them of their error, and that they bought their land fairly. Their complaints became so frequent, and they so troublesome, that the whites assisted them in procuring the interferences of the General Court, who took cognizance of the case, and offered a Court of Inquiry to be held at Nantucket, and appointed Judge — to preside at said court, when the subject was carefully examined, the records produced; the Heads of the Indians were present and examined in each particular, which occupied a number of days; finally the court determined that the land was fairly purchased by deeds, which appeared on record; the Judge then advised them to be quiet in the future, and to cause no more difficulty about the business.

The case being thus decided proved very salutary; the Indians afterwards remained quiet. In the year 1674, an epidemical disease prevailed among them which spread its devastation into nearly every family, and carried off 222 in a very short time; of those who were attacked very few recovered. It was believed the sickness originated from a brig that was cast ashore on the north side of the island, from Ireland, as a number on board were sick with a similar fever. But what is most remarkable, the sickness was wholly confined among the Indians, the white inhabitants being equally exposed; notwithstanding, not one instance occurred among them, which enabled them to render the poor distressed natives that assistance the nature of the case required, who visited them daily, and carried such necessaries and comforts as their situation demanded. So, by this land and other causes, they have become nearly extinct, there being not more than four or five left that are natives of the island.

Q. Is there any wood now growing on the island?

A. I believe none, except from the nurseries. It was formerly well wooded.

Q. Is the island well watered?

A. Fresh water is very scarce on

the undivided lands, excepting in two or three ponds that are several miles asunder.

Q. You speak of common and undivided lands, please to inform me if you hold any in severalty?

A. There have been several parcels divided by a major vote of the proprietors, and allotted to each proprietor his proportion.

Q. I have been informed your lands were principally in common and undivided, and that your patent from Governor Lovelace, while you were under the government of New York, mentioned the mode by which they might be improved.

A. Your information is correct; we have a patent with specific privileges, but are not thereby precluded from dividing any portion of the island when a major vote of the proprietors can be obtained for that purpose.

Q. Be pleased to inform me in what manner the island became inhabited by white people.

A. From the best information I can collect, it appears that one Thomas Macy emigrated from Chilmark in Old England to Salisbury in Massachusetts, where, in consequence of some religious dispute, in the year sixteen hundred and fifty-nine, he was compelled to proceed to Nantucket for safety with his family, which was the only white family on the island during that winter. Afterwards some others moved to the island for the purpose of fishing, &c.

Q. By what means were the present possessors confirmed in the right of soil?

A. Nantucket was discovered by Gosnald, a British navigator, in the year sixteen hundred and two. In the reign of Charles the second, James, Duke of York, afterwards King of England, held jurisdiction of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and other adjacent islands. By him it was granted to Ferdinando Gorges, and William, Earl of Sterling, and by their agent James Forvett it was conveyed to one Mayhew, who sold nine tenths parts to nine other men, reserving one tenth to himself. The company was afterwards denominated by the name of Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy, and their associates. From that they increased the number of shares to twenty-seven.

Q. In what manner has the plough and meadow land, and public stock of the island, been regulated?

A. The proprietors voted an allotment to each share of forty-two acres of house-lot land, with an additional act that each share should contain an equal number of Sheep's Commons as a stocking right. As they purchased land of the natives they continued to increase the number to each share until it amounted to seven hundred and seventy, and at all times the dividend land has been assigned to each proprietor agreeable to the number of commons which he owned. The stocking right has consistently been regulated by the same principle.

Q. What privileges do you conceive are secured by the patent you mentioned to have been granted to the proprietors?

A. In the year sixteen hundred and seventy-one our patent was granted by Francis Lovelace, then Governor of New York, at which date Nantucket was acknowledged to be a part of that government: The patent secured certain privileges to the freeholders of the islands, by virtue of which all the public acts, rules and orders for regulating and governing the proprietors' lands, have been established from that until the present date.

Q. It appears that you are now annexed to Massachusetts; please to inform me how it came to be so.

A. When William and Mary came to the throne of England, they directed a change from New York to Massachusetts, ratifying and confirming to the freeholders of the island, all the privileges they had enjoyed under the patent granted by Francis Lovelace.

Q. What proof have you of this?

A. Our patent from Francis Lovelace may be found on our county record. We also find a statute law of May, one thousand six hundred and ninety three, which annexes us to this state with the privileges before named.

Q. You speak of a title to some privileges; please to mention them.

A. We are secured in the right of governing ourselves in the improvement of our lands, as we may think proper, by a major vote, legally obtained, without being subject to the control of any man or body of men whatever.

Q. What quantity of land, other than that before mentioned, have been divided by the proprietors and now owned in severalty?

A. About one hundred and eighty acres to a share. These are peat swamps, beach shares, meadow land, and some plough land.

Q. What large divisions have been ordered by a vote of proprietors?

A. A part of the land called southeast quarter, about twenty-four hundred and thirty acres, was divided for land of inheritance, also that tract of land called Squam and Paucamo, about sixteen hundred and twenty acres, was divided in the revolutionary war, for the purpose of tillage, to relieve the pressure of want which then prevailed.

Q. Are the lands now in common equal in quality to those that are divided?

A. I believe the soil is not so good and the scarcity of water in many places adds to lessen its value.

Q. I observe the petitioners declare that as their lands are now improved they are not profitable.

A. I presume it must be a mistake, having often heard it observed, and from experience I have proved it to be worth six per cent and some have rated it much higher and more serviceable to the community as they are now improved.

Q. What is your meaning of the community; are all the inhabitants of Nantucket proprietors?

A. The inhabitants are not all proprietors. But, to explain my meaning when I say the community, I will add, as the lands have been improved, a person may pasture a cow for three or four dollars per year, including the expense of herdsman, who, during the season for grass, take them from their owners in the morning and return them to their doors at night. It may also be added, that in case of a general division, the expense of herdsman alone would discourage the idea of keeping a cow. It is also further observable, that the land is so generally clothed with a weak soil, and so destitute of convenient watering places, that the allotments of many small proprietors' portions could not be disposed of for a sum equal to the cost of the fence to enclose it, the consequence must ultimately be a very great sacrifice of property.

Q. I have heard it observed that some would be benefited by a sale of their lands.

A. I have heard the same observation, but have not yet discovered from what source a benefit would flow to a man that disposed of his property to support a novel undertaking.

Q. It is said they would find employment more productive if they would but renounce farming.

A. O, ho! Then a hundred or more families that are now supported by economy and industry on the little interest left them by their ancestors, and have lived as independent yeomanry, would find more productive employment if they sold their lands, but it is further observable that most of the hired labourers are employed at or about the wharves, and respectable

people are often idle for want of employment. Therefore, increasing the number of labouring men would defeat the object for which it contemplated a remedy. It also appears our ancestors never intended we should be compelled to sell our lands.

Q. Please to explain your last observation?

A. My meaning is that the small proprietors should not be obliged to sell a part of their land to fence the rest, and afterwards sell the remainder for lack of water, but, except a majority should order otherwise, to continue it in common to lessen the expense of fence and other inconveniences.

Q. What was the origin of your present mode of improvement?

A. It was early observed that a number of whales visited the shores or coast of the island annually in the winter and Spring, which induced them to send to Cape Cod for a man to instruct them in killing that fish, which was in the year sixteen hundred and ninety, it continued a valuable employment for many years in boats from the shore. It was about seventy years, and what is wonderful, no white person was lost or killed in the pursuit.

Q. You have not yet explained the origin of the present improvement.

A. Their admirable progress in the business of whaling, together with their abundant success, induced them (when the whales had removed from the coast) to pursue them in vessels to different parts of the ocean, and at the commencement of the revolutionary war, there were employed one hundred and fifty sail of vessels in the whale fishery, on the coast of Brazil, Guinea, West Indies and other places; but the war nearly put a stop to the business, and necessity obliged the seamen to devise other measure for a livelihood, some to farming, but chiefly in following the sea in other employments. But alas, at the close of the war we were left with but three or four old vessels; our whalers mostly dead, and left widows with distressed families; and the trading property nearly exhausted. The business, however, has since revived and continued to increase up to the present day, and have, within a few years, circumnavigated the globe in that pursuit. It was, however, early perceived that whaling must be the principal employment of the inhabitants, and the land was considered a minor object. They concluded to continue it in common unless a majority should order otherwise, which has been constantly understood as a rule of government among the proprietors. The property of the landholders has descended to their children in a manner to accommodate them, by enabling them to keep a cow and some sheep for family convenience in a manner not to intrude on public regulations nor to call their attention from the all-important business of the island, say whaling.

Q. How many proprietors are there on the island?

A. I do not know the exact number, but should suppose above three hundred, as some own but one or two, others more than eight hundred Sheep's Commons.

Q. Do you actually suppose the proprietors calculated never to divide the island?

A. The land being not worth fencing added to its want of water, have been considered a sufficient barrier to a general division, and on no principle has it been considered proper or legal unless by a major vote for that purpose.

Q. What measures were taken to effect a division of the allotments already disposed of in severalty?

A. By a majority of the body of proprietors without the assistance or interference of any other man or body of men, as it has been constantly considered that our patent guaranteed the right of improvement of our lands, in any manner we pleased, when a majority of votes for the purpose was obtained.

Q. What were the conditions of laying out of Squam and the south-east quarter that should exempt any proprietor from fencing?

A. The tenor of the vote was, that no person should be obliged to make any part of a partition fence unless he improved his own land in the same way.

Q. Has Squam and the south-east quarter ever been fenced?

A. Some few have fenced their allotment in severalty; but it was voted that a fence should be kept up round each tract forever, at the expense of the proprietors.

Q. Should the petitioners obtain, would it not destroy all the rules and regulations by which the proprietors have heretofore been governed in conducting their business?

A. I believe some new regulations must be immediately adopted, otherwise the most alarming consequences will ensue.

Q. In case the petitioners have their proportions allotted, in what manner and by what body of men are the fences around Squam and the south-east quarter to be maintained?

A. The moment the petitioners obtain, it makes a nullity of all the rules by which the proprietors have heretofore been governed, and it must cease to be the duty of any body of men to maintain the fence.

Q. In case the petitioners obtain, what are the next measures to be taken relative to fence at Squam and the southeast quarter?

A. Each individual must fence his own allotment, or not improve his lands.

Q. Will the event of that proceeding be beneficial?

A. The expense to the small proprietors, of fencing their lands in severalty, I believe would be full equal to the value, and the subsequent repairs would require the greatest part of the profits forever.

Q. Do the petitioners for a severance expect a benefit therefrom if they obtain?

A. We believe they have not a well grounded expectation of benefit; as but few of them that turn their attention to farming, they appear to be employed in more lucrative concerns; such must be the conclusion from a perusal of their petition.

Q. In what respect?

A. They are known to be merchants concerned in, and owners of shipping, while the interest of some of the petitioners are below fifty Sheep's Commons, no farmer is named in the petition for severance.

Q. You observed there were no trees, except nurseries, growing on the island.

A. It is true I did. The wood that was last standing on the island was small shrubby oak and cedars, which necessity compelled us to cut for fuel in the revolutionary war.

Q. What would be your substitute for fuel in case of another war, when fire-wood could not be imported?

A. We have swamps on the island that afford a mud called peat, which, with the addition of small oak bushes and roots, would answer our purpose in lieu of wood.

Q. Are your swamps in common at this time?

A. About one half have heretofore been divided for the purpose of turning into meadow and digging peat. The remaining part is yet in common.

Q. Has it ever been contemplated to effect a division of the swamps that are yet in common?

A. It has lately been ordered by the proprietors to finish the division of swamps, and also to lay out roads round all the ponds, with other roads leading thereto, that the public may have water, and each proprietor have his proportion of peat.

Q. Are there no objections to this mode of proceeding?

A. The most strenuous objections are made, notwithstanding the business of the last meeting was concluded on previous to receiving the order of notice by the proprietors, which order followed the petition.

Q. Is it possible that any man, or body of men, should dislike that each individual should have his proportion of fuel and water?

A. Whatever the event may be, a large majority is in favour of the orders of the last meeting, conceiving it warrantable not only by a rule of custom, but an indisputable right by patent, which renders the proceeding rational, legal, and lawful.

Q. Please to inform me who they are that make objections after so large a majority?

A. They are those that have petitioned for a severance. They entered a protest in proprietors' meeting to that effect against the whole proceeding.

Q. What proportion of the common land is now owned by the petitioners for severance?

A. A little more than four twenty-sevenths.

Q. Do you suppose they will continue their attempt to rule the majority?

A. If they continue to pursue their declared intentions they will probably embarrass the corporate body, and distress many of the proprietors particularly.

Q. Do you suppose they will succeed at the upper court?

A. After recurring to the records by which their proprietors hold their lands, it is the opinion of many their petition cannot be sustained. The proprietors have been a corporate body for more than one hundred years, during which time, I believe they have been governed by the principles of their charter and patent right to this day, which is presumed cannot legally be done away, except by an unanimous vote among themselves. At present, a large majority are in favour of continuing the system, by which they have heretofore been governed.

Q. What measures will the proprietors take to counteract the doings of the petitioners?

A. Perhaps not any, for it is considered by some, if they continue to proceed, that ruin will be the result, as to regulation, interest, or harmony.

Q. What important advantage can they expect to obtain, should the principles of their petition be granted?

A. I do not know, except the gratifying idea that a little more than four shares should give laws to more than twenty-two shares.

Q. What measures that you have not mentioned can the proprietors take to arrest the progress of the petitioners?

A. I am not at liberty to inform; but had they come forward agreeable to a rule of custom here, and had been denied, and then had proposed arbitration, I believe the issue would not have been so prejudicial as it now threatens. It is feared the event will be more ruinous than the value of the land.

Q. Are the petitioners natives of Nantucket? If they are, how should it happen they are so neglectful of the advice of the ancient standard?

A. They are mostly natives of the island, and further, with truth may declare, the names of some of them are those to whom we have been instructed to apply as the models for regularity.

Q. Did they obtain their present consequence on Nantucket by whaling, &c?

A. Principally by that and other business naturally produced therefrom.

Q. From what you have said I fear they are not fully apprized of the ruinous consequences that many ensue?

A. I believe it time to divert the subject, with adding that however much I am opposed to the measures that they are pursuing, if it proves they are right and are proceeding according to best wisdom, they will eventually obtain, so far as for the inhabitants and island to flourish; if the reverse proves to be the case, they may have enough to bear without any molestation from me,

A Proprietor.

Nantucket, May, 1811.

"Rights of Ways" at Nantucket.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

The older generation of Nantucketers enjoyed "right of ways" to all ponds and to the shores of Nantucket. For years the people used these rutted roads when they wanted to go gunning, fishing or clamming. Naturally they expected the younger generation would be able to do the same. What has happened since then? Where are all these easements the older people enjoyed?

Year after year, the citizens of Nantucket have watched the "land-grabbers" take their heritage from them. Who is to blame?

The Clerk of the Superior Court and County Commissioners are the guardians of the people's rights and privileges in land. If they are negligent and indifferent, who is there to protect the people? The land can be put through the "Land Court" and the people lose their "right of way" before they realize what has happened.

A prominent "Land Court" official told a friend of mine the people of Nantucket must be crazy to let certain people take away the people's rights. He said we should lay out all our roads to the ponds and shores now and not wait until some have the land put through "Land Court." We would then be forced to buy it back at their price.

If I am elected "Clerk of the Court" this fall, I intend to make it my business to look up our remaining "right of ways" and help the County Commissioners lay out permanent roads.

If something is not done soon, the citizens of Nantucket will find they will be like chickens in a coop—all fenced in. Who will want to come to this island if they can't get to the shore without trespassing on someone's land?

Earle F. Cooke.

4 Charter street.

Aug. 25, 1934

Feb. 1935

A Few Random Thoughts And Facts.

To anyone who may be interested:

A somewhat intimate association with Nantucket for many years, without having appeared in the local press over a controversial subject or even addressing a request to the Board of Selectmen, should be mute evidence that the writer is not a seeker after publicity or the lime-light and most assuredly he has no axe to grind on the stone of public opinion.

All that follows is written with the utmost respect for constituted authority, with the highest respect individually for all town officials with whom I am personally acquainted, and with that natural admiration one always feels for officials who (having available the advice of legal counsel) think they are right and stick by their guns.

A situation has arisen (most unfortunately) which could have been settled, quickly and easily, if the Board of Selectmen had been willing to show a little co-operation, but, on the contrary, it has chosen to make an issue of the matter. There remains only one of two possible alternatives, either to pick up the gauntlet in a perfectly friendly spirit and break one lance, invoking no principles of law, simply justice, or turn tail and run. "I do not choose to run."

An opportunity is furnished to include several other birds with the same shell, which never would have been fired but for this shot at a shore bird.

Several years ago, the Mosquito Control Authority made a cut from Sesachacha Pond to the ocean, at a location it never had used before. No request was made for permission to make this cut, but as it was for the good of Nantucket no formal protest was made, although it was most keenly disturbing to the owner.

This matter was mentioned to one of the Island's most public minded citizens. He brought it to the attention of the then head of the Control, who had no hesitancy in admitting the unethical procedure and gave instructions that permission should thereafter be obtained. This cut has left a scar and it is problematical how long it will be before the destroyed vegetation returns.

The stock phrases "We didn't know anyone owned it," or "It has always been done before" seem hardly as applicable in these days as a few years ago.

This year what happened? On Saturday, March 26th, a letter was written and properly addressed to me in New York, advising that preparations were made to open the pond on the following Thursday, a rather short notice. Through a miscarriage in the mails, this letter was received in Nantucket just three weeks after the cut was made.

The writer has always had extreme reluctance to post property against trespassing, having only two "No Shooting" signs at his Shawkemo residence and these are as much for self-preservation as any other purpose. Any one who is familiar with one circumstance at this location must readily admit the existence of these signs is justifiable.

He believes the public has certain rights, some of which are rapidly being lost; is paying no inconsiderable amount in taxes on property over which hunters, fishermen and the public have, up till now, roamed at will and hopes they have derived some profit and pleasure therefrom.

There comes to mind in this connection one particular road, which appears as a public road on the Ewer map, has undoubtedly been so used for well over 100 years but which now has a traffic sign (for the convenience of the public) suggesting a detour.

Many, many years ago an attempt was made to block this road; at that time simply a gate was used, with no group of trees in the middle of the road as a secondary line of defense. It is a pleasure to report—*The Gate Took The Count*.

Believing also there are property rights which should be respected when that property begins to change location in large quantities, it seems that patience ceases to be a virtue, and the proper time has at long last arrived to at least make a mild protest and take a stand for the preservation of those rights.

Having driven early in November to the end of the paved Quidnet road and noticing that a considerable yardage of sand had recently been removed and, having seen sand on the Polpis road a short time before, the question is inevitable—are the quantities the same?

In order to settle this question at once, and by what was considered the proper authority, the following letter was sent, under the firm conviction it merited investigation, was in no wise an unreasonable request, and that the Board would be found unhesitatingly on the side of law, order and justice.

Nantucket, Mass., Nov. 9, 1938.
Board of Selectmen,
Nantucket, Mass.
Gentlemen:

A large quantity of sand has recently been taken, without permission, from my property at Quidnet. Feeling sure you would want to check up at once on the unbelievable possibility that the Town of Nantucket has used stolen material on which it has collected taxes for many years, would you kindly request a report from your Highway Inspector, on the location from which sand was taken for use on the Polpis Road?

Whoever authorized the removal of this sand could not, under the greatest stretch of the imagination, have any conceivable excuse, as the impossibility of finding any eastern shore-front land without an owner is well known to everyone on Nantucket.

Furthermore, this sand pit is an eye-sore along a public road and vegetation has been destroyed which keeps the sand from drifting.

Thanking you for giving this matter your attention.

Very truly yours,
Harry M. Harps.

If the attempt were being made to establish the identity of any one who may have taken my sand for use on a shore front estate, it is quite conceivable a reply would have been forthcoming, in plain English, not to bother them or take up their very valuable time with my trivial affairs.

If the report had shown that my sand had not been used, no one would have been more pleased than I, and if it had been used, it would have occasioned only the mildest rebuke possible to frame—*Trespass No More*—and the assurance that the Town had been the gainer by the transaction.

The following reply was received:

November 12th, 1938.

Mr. Harry M. Harps,
Academy Lane,
Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Harps:

Your letter to the Board of Selectmen under date of November 9th, registering a complaint about the removal of sand from your property at Quidnet has been referred to me.

May I advise you that the Maintenance Work (Seal Coating) on the Polpis Road was done by Mr. — under a contract with the Town, the Contractor to furnish all materials (asphalt and sand), labor and trucks. The Town of Nantucket or its Highway Department has never taken a shovel of sand from your property, nor would it consider doing so without first obtaining your permission, and arranging to compensate you for the same.

Very truly yours,
Nantucket Highway Department.
Edward P. Tice, Superintendent.

It is a matter of absolute indifference to me who has the contract for any work done on Nantucket. Supposing, however, the fact had been established that some Contractor had used my sand on the Town Road, his reply might well have been, "I've never taken a shovel of your sand, John Doe did it."

How John Doe would pass the buck I don't know, except to possibly say, "I've never taken even a handful of your sand." Sort of a vicious circle, which I am supposed to travel in order to gather information.

I have no desire to force an issue, but if so, and sought evidence for legal action, I would never ask one un-official citizen of Nantucket to testify against another on a matter of so little consequence.

The reply to Mr. Tice follows:

Nantucket Mass., Nov. 16, 1938.
Mr. Edward P. Tice,
Supt. of Highways,
Town of Nantucket.

Dear Mr. Tice:

Thank you for yours of the 12th inst., but my letter of the 9th to the Board of Selectmen was evidently misunderstood.

I simply intended to request advice as to the exact location from which sand was obtained for use on the Polpis road, under the assumption that the Town exercised a supervisory control over its road work and that the Board undoubtedly had the most reliable source of information on this point, available at no great effort.

To put the matter as concisely as possible, was the sand taken from the side of and beyond the paved Quidnet road, next to the pond, at the extreme shore end?

An answer to this question would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,
Harry M. Harps.

No reply ever received.

Having no knowledge of whether the report suggested was ever asked or received, the possibility occurs it may be one of those dark secrets of an executive session.

What a pity, that such a report was not made use of, as it would have prevented and destroyed the inclination for this composition.

The final communication to the Board of Selectmen:

Nantucket, Mass., Nov. 23, 1938.
Board of Selectmen,
Town of Nantucket.
Gentlemen:

In order to keep the record clear; having received neither a satisfactory reply to nor even a direct acknowledgment of my letter of the 9th inst., I am most reluctantly forced to the conclusion that the Board considers the subject a matter in which the Town is not an interested party and is putting it up to me to handle the matter in my own way, without the benefit of its strong support and co-operation.

May I express regrets for my mistake in encroaching upon your time. Respectfully yours,

Harry M. Harps.

which drew the following:

November 24, 1938.

Mr. Harry Harps,
Nantucket, Mass.
My dear Mr. Harps:

In reply to your letter of November 23rd, the Board discussed the matter very thoroughly at their meeting the same night with Mr. Tice.

It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the matter should rest between you and the contractor, rather than the Town, as the contractor is hired with the understanding that he furnishes his own material for road work construction, and while we recognize that the trespassing and taking of sand without permission from private property is wrong, it seems as if the contractor is responsible.

Yours very truly,
Board of Selectmen.

The italics are mine.

Which only raises anew the one and only point I have been trying all the time to clear up (but seem to lack the power of expression to put across)—*Did the Contractor use his own material???*

I am indeed glad to see that we are in perfect accord upon this point, although the Board does not seem to be as anxious to loosen up on and make public its findings (if any) as the writer is now forced to be.

To repeat, it does seem unfortunate that the report suggested had not been used to settle this point and the matter ended then and there, as noted above.

I am absolutely unable to see any possible excuse for putting it up to me to exercise the functions of Inspector of Highways and investigate the fulfilment of a perfectly proper specification in a Town contract.

It is apparently impossible for an outsider to determine which of four possibilities is correct:

1—A report has not been requested or received.

2—A report has been received and laid on the table.

3—A report has been received, showing, beyond a reasonable doubt, his own material had been used.

4—Or if the UNINTERESTED officials are only accessory after the fact (whatever that may mean).

If my sand was made use of by the Town of Nantucket, I claim most emphatically:

It is a matter in which the Town should be morally, possibly legally, most vitally interested, contrary to the ruling otherwise of the present or any future Board of Selectmen.

If a housewife gives a quarter to an agent and commissions him to buy her 2 heads of lettuce, and he, thinking it more profitable and being in the vicinity of 30-32 Cliff Road, helps himself (without permission) to the lettuce grown there, should not that housewife feel the least she could do would be to reprimand her agent and see that the owner was properly reimbursed?

This is not such a hypothetical question as appears on the surface, it having happened frequently, practically as outlined, at the location mentioned, the garden being operated by one of the most honest, conscientious and the hardest working men, I have the pleasure of knowing on Nantucket.

The writer suffers no illusions that his logic will be shot full of holes by the trained legal mind and realizes also that he is playing a heads I win, tails you lose game, with nothing to gain and all to lose.

It is too late now to lock the barn door but it might be effective to insert a notice in the New Yearling (*The Quidnet Beachcomber*):

"Stray no more from your appointed path, especially not upon the public highway, as you are absolutely sure to be run over, with the possibility of disastrous results."

Possibly this notice would render posting unnecessary. I stop not from lack of ammunition, Mr. Editor, but simply from disinclination to trespass further upon your space.

May I have the pleasure of informally presenting to the Town any and all of my sand it may have had the use of on a public road, with the hope it has been of some financial benefit (over 7 years), and since such heroic efforts were made to avoid acknowledgment, none are now necessary.

As for the blot on the landscape, I can think of no possible way to properly square myself with the Town, but do accept full responsibility (no one else having shown any inclination to share it in over a month) and offer my most sincere apologies for a condition due wholly to my negligence in not properly posting my own property.

Wherever reference is made to the Board, it is as just such, rather than personalities.

In order there may be no suspicion of any personal animosities, it has seemed best to take on, alone, an inanimate Town as an adversary (rather long odds, it must be admitted) but still preferable to involving any one else.

Any reference made has been selected solely on account of familiarity and, I repeat, is entirely impersonal, as an attempt is being made only to advocate a principle.

Every word has been carefully weighed, with an attempt at strict accuracy.

Why make a mountain out of a sand pit? Why all this rigmarole about a few hundred yards of sand and despoiling the landscape? Echo answers—why?

Let us consider if at least a much more tangible answer, and possibly the only conceivable alibi, may not be the fact that the proverbial straw has at last fluttered into place and the dumb beast is entitled to the relief to be obtained by his customary groans from an over-load.

This might well be boiled down to *Justice Should Receive Support.*

To take the words from the mouth of a so-called uncivilized (but ancient and honorable) original settler: "I have spoken."

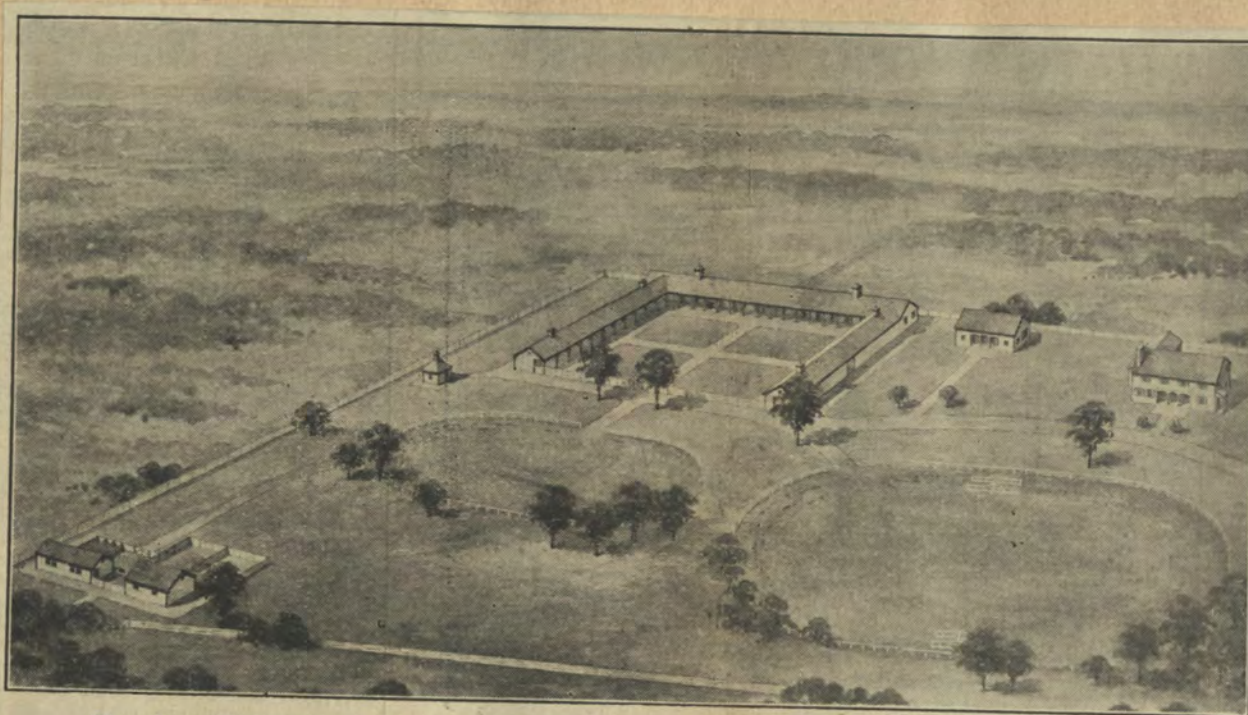
Mr. Editor, I thank you.

Harry Macy Harps.

Nantucket Limericks.

Aunt Harriet Hiller of 'Seonset
Just doted on tea made of boneset:
This, when taken red hot,
Went straight to the spot,
And she felt like a jay-bird by sunset.
Miss Dorothy Smart of Wauwinet
Can fry you twelve clams in a minute:
Then, just for the fun
She'll pick up her gun
And shoot you a rabbit and skin it.
Cousin Deborah Morey of Pochick
Raised a queer breed of fowl she called dough-chick:
'Tis true they were tough,
But when served up with duff,
They really were better than no chick.
Mrs. Miriam Coffin of Quaise
Had some rather unusual ways:
She loved her pet pig,
And when he grew big
She laced him up tightly in stays.

It was old Hermit Parker of Quidnet
Went fishing for cod in a squid-net:
But he found easy game
(When he rose into fame)
In tourists, and pennies they did net.
Says Tabitha Perkins of Maddequet:
'It beats all creation how sad I get:
In Summer it's skeeters,
In Winter it's heaters,
It ain't to be wondered how sad I get."
Mehitable Snow of Cappa'm,
Shut the meeting-house door with a slam.
When it caught her right thumb,
And quoth she, "Well, I vum;
If that happens again I'll say Jam!"
Miss Abigail Fish of Coskaty
Was lonesome and longed for a matey:
So, with zeal that was tireless,
She sent out a wireless,
Which brought her a young man from Hayti.
Copr., H. S. Wyer.



The above illustration was reproduced from a miniature lay-out of the Nantucket Stables and shows the general arrangement of the hunt club buildings and grounds as they will look when completed.

Nantucket Hunt Stables Sold At Auction for \$3,200.

The cottage, stables and equipment owned by the Moorland Realty Company, and situated off Cato and Vesper lane on the southwestern outskirts of the town, were sold at public auction on Monday morning last.

A bid of \$3,200, made by a lawyer representing Mrs. Becky Lanier Trimpi, was the highest offered, and was accepted by Henry Coleman, who presided as auctioneer. Bidding began at \$2500, with Mrs. Trimpi's representative and George Grimes, owner of the adjacent Tashama Farms, being the only two bidders.

The property included ten acres of level land, fenced in, a clubhouse and furnished apartment, a stable containing 30 box stalls, saddle and feed rooms, groom's quarters, kennels for the hounds, and an artesian well. The original value is fairly estimated at \$30,000.

The hunt club property was created in 1930 by an interested group of men who formed a corporation known as the Moorland Realty Company. Due to the fact that the last few years have produced no dividends, the majority of the investors had decided to offer the place for sale, realizing a drastic sacrifice must be accepted.

Mrs. Trimpi is a well-known sports-woman from Kentucky, and has participated in many shows in the east and south. She has been acting master of the hounds at the hunt club for the past two seasons, and has taken an active interest in the sport since first coming to the island several years ago.

Despite the fact that a large number of people attended the auction, only the two bidders took official action when Auctioneer Coleman called for bids. Among the group were several islanders who were keenly interested in the property but decided not to bid when they learned that Mrs. Trimpi desired it for the continuance of the hunt club.

Two weeks before the sale, William Warner Justice, of Philadelphia, the man who first organized the hunt club here in 1926, and was one of the investors in the Moorland Realty, issued a statement in *The Inquirer and Mirror*. Mr. Justice wrote that it was his hope that some one interested in the continuance of the property as a hunt club would purchase it. In any case, he stated, the sport would be continued by him and his pack of hounds would still be in the field.

"Sheep Commons" and "Common and Undivided Land" Explained to Rotary Club by Town Clerk.

The members of the Rotary Club of Nantucket were privileged to hear a detailed explanation of the terms "sheep commons" and "common and undivided land" at their meeting, Wednesday noon. The speaker was Town Clerk Charles Clark Coffin, who was recently welcomed into membership in the Club. While Mr. Coffin gave the same talk at one of the Informal Lectures of the Nantucket Historical Association this past summer, it is believed that his explanation of this complicated subject is of great interest to everyone on Nantucket, particularly since steps have been taken by the Town to purchase a block of 570 sheep commons, for a price of \$4,500.00.

Mr. Coffin's talk, as given before the Rotary Club, was as follows:

The primary purpose in this talk is to define and describe sheep commons, divided land and dividend lands,—what they are and how they originated. In the limited time we have I cannot recite the entire history of the Island leading up to these events, but will attempt to describe them as briefly as possible and perhaps have some time for questions.

The development of Nantucket land has been a very unique and unusual process, as far as I know entirely different from the usual development of real estate anywhere else, with a system which could only be put into operation with conditions as they existed on Nantucket in the early days—a small island owned in its entirety by a small group of people.

As the population of the Island increased, the land issues became more and more confused and today it appears to be a rather complicated matter. However, if we begin at the beginning and take events step by step as they occurred, the basic principles are really quite simple and logical.

Much has been written in numerous histories about Nantucket land, and you have all read several of these accounts, but I have found that the facts often become confused and it is helpful to review them occasionally and get them straightened out in chronological order.

In 1621 King James the First created the Council of Affairs of New England, also known as the Plymouth Colony, and in 1637 the Earl of Sterling appointed James Forreth his agent or deputy for selling and settling the islands. Thus in 1641 Nantucket Island was deeded to Thomas Mayhew and his son Thomas by James Forreth, agent of William, Earl of Sterling.

In 1659 the Island was deeded by Mayhew to the ten original purchasers for the sum of thirty pounds sterling and two beaver hats, or quoting Hough's Albany papers: "The elder Mayhew admitted nine others to a joint partnership in the Island of Nantucket, reserving a small part to himself, and in February following, it was agreed that each partner might admit another to an equal share in power and interest, not being justly excepted to by the rest." These were known as the 20 first purchasers, later called Proprietors. These 20 shares were subsequently divided, so that in 1670 there were 27 Proprietors and

in 1792 nearly 300 owners of the Common Fields. In 1792 one share was entitled to keep 720 sheep; 16 sheep were counted equal to 1 horse, and 8 sheep to 1 ox or cow. Thus 27 and 720 became the basic figures for all lay-outs and shares. Those are the principal figures to remember and retain in your mind, and they will be explained more fully in a few minutes: 27 and 720.

The first page in Book 1 in the Registry of Deeds is dated 1663. At that time the Registry was a place of record for many items other than deeds and so in these first few books we find various records of Town Meetings, Acts of Legislature, markings of sheep, etc. During this time there also appear some of the various deeds by which the settlers purchased from the Indians their Sachem rights and interests in various parts of the Island. For a short period the Indians had a written language of their own, and there are a number of deeds written in this now, so far as I know, unreadable language.

In 1671 the Proprietors of Nantucket obtained a patent from Governor Lovelace of New York.

When New York was divided into counties four years later, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, with other adjacent islands, constituted Dukes County. The next year, Thomas Dongan, then Governor of New York, made a new patent, the original of which may be seen in the Registry of Deeds in Nantucket. By this patent the inhabitants were given the powers of a corporation and authorized to choose one representative to the Provincial Assembly of New York.

By the royal charter of 1691, which arrived in 1692, the Massachusetts Colony and the Plymouth Colony were consolidated into one Province, under the name of Massachusetts, and by this new charter Nantucket is expressly declared to be a part of Massachusetts. Not however until 1693, and then only after the Colonial Legislature had passed an act reciting the purchases made by the inhabitants of Nantucket from the Governors of New York, did Nantucket become a part of Massachusetts. Nantucket was made a separate county of Massachusetts in 1695.

It was at the time of this transfer from New York to Massachusetts that the Proprietors of Nantucket retained their jurisdiction of the ponds and this condition is what led to the discussion of whether or not State fishing licenses were required on Nantucket. About two years ago this matter was brought into focus when the State Department of Conservation again attempted to enforce a regulation that fishing licenses were required on Nantucket, and was once again established that the ponds belong to the Proprietors of the Island and do not come under State jurisdiction.

The Town was incorporated in 1671 and its first location was near Capaum Pond. This site was gradually changed to Wesko, the present location, between then and 1720. It seems amazing that so many houses could be moved from the site near Capaum Pond to the present location and leave so few traces. There are the remains of an occasional cellar hole but very little other evidence. However, when one considers that the houses had no wiring, no pipes nor plumbing such as modern houses would have, and that the main beams of the houses were fastened together with wooden pegs which could be easily driven out, it is perhaps more understandable.

The picture gathered from early accounts is of the Town fenced off to keep the sheep out, with gates at the main points of entrance to the Town, as the New Town Gate, and so forth. As the bulk of the Island was one large sheep pasture, community gardens at the most fertile spots were also well fenced in. Cows were kept in one large community herd, driven to pasture each day and returned to their respective owners at night. They were frequently pastured in some enclosure which, when sufficiently fertilized, would be next used for crops.

A sheep common, as used by the early settlers, signified as much land as would furnish commonage or pasturage for a sheep. Its original equivalent seems to have been an acre and a half of land.

Twenty-seven men owned the Island. They laid out their homesteads and a certain amount of land for house lots. They took from 20 to 40 acres each—the records seem to vary a little, but they took what they deemed necessary for a substantial homestead and all the rest of the land, about two-thirds or more of the Island, they decided to use for sheep pasturage. According to their estimates, this land would support 19,440 sheep, so each of the 27 men could have 720 sheep. Of course each man did not wish to have 720 sheep—some wanted less and some probably wanted more—so they bought and sold these sheep commons, and they were then, as they are today, nothing but the right to turn sheep loose on the common land, and if you have a sheep common, as many people do, you still have the right to turn a sheep at large on the common land, if you can find any common land. It was later proved to also represent 1—19,440th interest in the common land.

When at a later period certain large tracts of land were laid out to form "divisions", and designated by names such as "Squam", "Southeast Quarter", "Smooth Hummocks", etc., each division was divided into twenty-seven shares as nearly equal in size as the nature of the case would admit—quality and quantity considered. When these divisions were laid out, the number of proprietors was no longer twenty-seven, as it was constantly increasing by inheritance, as well as by bargain and sale, and few individuals could claim a whole share in any one of the divisions; but each share was supposed to contain seven hundred and twenty undivided parts, and each landowner owned the same fractional interest in one of these shares as in a full share of all the common lands. Lots were then drawn to determine in what particular share of the new division each man's interest should fall. The share might contain one acre or it might contain fifty acres, according to the extent of the division laid out; but 720 was the constant denominator, and a man who owned, say, forty-five sheep commons of the original land, or more correctly 45/19,440 of the common land, would

also be the owner of 45/720, undivided, of a certain "share in Southeast Quarter"; of a certain other "share in Squam", and so on in the several divisions as they were successively laid out. All the land of the Island, excepting house-lot land, was owned in this manner, whether used for planting or stocking purposes—the several proprietors of each share holding it in common and undivided, and buying and selling only undivided fractional interests. The lands so laid out in divisions were known by the name of "dividend lands" or divided lands.

The Proprietors formed themselves into an organization under the name of "The Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Lands of Nantucket", held meetings, and kept records of their own, distinct from the records of deeds.

It was at this point that any owner of a sheep common was considered a Proprietor and voted in the Proprietors' meetings according to the number of sheep commons he owned, just as you would vote so many shares of stock in a Corporation.

For more than a hundred and fifty years, down into the beginning of the last century, all the undivided land of the Island—aside from the house-lot land—was thus owned in common, and the Proprietors steadily refused to set off any one person's interest to him in severalty.

But these fetters were soon broken by Richard Mitchell, Edward Carey, and a few others, who, being large Proprietors, desired to obtain title in severalty to the district known as Plainfield, lying north of the village of Siasconset, and containing some two thousand acres. Failing in their efforts at the Proprietors' meetings, they carried the case to the courts, and after several years of litigation they gained their point, and others followed their example with similar results.

This fight in the courts to finally force the Proprietors to set off to them a definite piece of land in exchange for their sheep commons was long and bitter.

In 1821 several tracts were laid out and apportioned under the names of Smooth Hummocks, Trott's Hills, Head of Plains, and others, and these are often spoken of as the new "divisions."

By the great set-off, the number of sheep commons had been reduced from 19,440 to 17,172; and although there were still twenty-seven shares in each division as before, the constant denominator was changed from 720 to 636. The owner of 1/20th part of an original share of land—provided no part of his interest had been sold—would own (or rather his heirs would own)—when this statement was made in 1882—thirty-six sheep commons in the common and undivided lands, with thirty-six sheep commons (meaning thirty-six undivided 720th parts) of a certain share in each of the old divisions, as Squam, Southeast Quarter, etc., as also thirty-six sheep commons (meaning thirty-six undivided 636th parts) in some certain share of each of the new divisions, as Smooth Hummocks, Trott's Hills, etc. It was possible to buy and sell these interests in the "dividend lands" separate from the interest in the common land, and thus a Proprietor who bought out all his co-tenants would own an entire share defined by certain specific boundary lines.

over

A sheep common, then, signified 1/19,440 of all the common land on the Island. The original idea was an acre and a half of land; but, as the term is now used, it indicates nothing definite, either in area or value, but means simply a certain undivided fractional part of a very uncertain something else, until the whole circumstances of each particular are investigated.

As soon as a division was laid out and drawn in shares, the Proprietors as an organization, ceased to have any control of it. If the owner of any portion of a share desired to hold his part in severalty he must make a formal application to the judicial courts, which would appoint commissioners to set off his portion; and many good titles have thus been secured. But in many cases where an undivided interest has remained in the same family for three or four generations, it has become so subdivided and split up by inheritance that it is practically impossible for a would-be purchaser to find all the present owners, and secure a perfect title by deed.

Starting about 1717 the Proprietors began to lay out divisions or shares of the common land for various purposes. The first shares were mainly for house lots, Wesco Acre Lots, Fish Lots, the Waterfront, the area around the Atheneum called Bocochico, which means "near the harbor" (there was formerly a creek where Lower Pearl Street is now), the Wharf Shares, Beach Shares, etc. Since peat was one of the main sources of fuel, and salt hay necessary for the welfare of the cattle, the swamps and salt meadows were next laid out in shares. In the early 1800's highways were planned and Siasconset was first mapped out about 1836.

Although the Proprietors had no jurisdiction over dividend lands—and incidentally, you can see where the term "dividend lands" came in, because if you owned some sheep commons, every time they made a new division or set-off of land you gained a fractional interest in the number set off but still retained your sheep commons, so that this set-off was really a dividend, and although the Proprietors had no jurisdiction over dividend lands, they still had jurisdiction over the common and undivided lands, and once the start was made any person owning sheep commons in the common and undivided land could petition the Proprietors to have set off to him a definite piece of common land in exchange for his sheep commons. The Proprietors would then hold a meeting, determine the merits of the case and instruct the Lot Layers to set off to that person a certain parcel of land for which he was to account to the Proprietors with the assessed number of sheep commons.

This is where the Proprietors began to get into a bit of trouble. Originally they considered a sheep common to be about an acre and a half of land. In the exchanges and set-offs of land they began to use an acre of land. However, they were not consistent about this. A large portion of the acreage of the Island had been used up in the various set-offs and so very little was left as common or undivided land. When you had a piece of land set off, the Proprietors voted as to how many sheep commons should be cancelled in their records in exchange for the land. They did not hold to a consistent rate of exchange and in

many cases large areas of land were set off for a comparatively small number of sheep commons. Thus they ran out of land before they ran out of sheep commons. Today there are some 600 sheep commons claimed to be in existence. There is hardly any land for which they could be exchanged unless possibly we were to consider the bottoms of the ponds and a few swamps.

Large owners of sheep commons and share holders began to petition the Proprietors to have sizeable tracts of land set off to them. What to do with these large tracts was the question. Sheep raising was no longer profitable and the land was poor for farming. The summer resort business was just beginning and this led to the idea of the land booms. Various tracts with shore front were divided into small house lots with the idea of developing summer colonies such as Surfside, Miacomet Park, Sunset Heights and Aurora Heights in Sconset, and later Madaket Terraces and Tom Nevers Head.

About this time—1890 on—the cranberry was introduced as a commercial crop. The Nantucket Cranberry Company through Franklin E. Smith purchased many sheep commons and share interests and gradually acquired through set-offs and exchanges most of the larger swamp area. It is his estate which now owns over 500 of the claimed to be existing 600 sheep commons.

The Massachusetts Land Court began operations in Nantucket in 1910 and owners began putting their set-offs through the Land Court to establish more accurate surveys and to clear up their titles. If a person acquired through purchase or inheritance, or both, say a one-third or one-half undivided interest in Share 5 at Pocomo, Smooth Hummocks or Southeast Quarter, he could then petition the Land Court to have his undivided interest set off to him in severalty, indicating his choice of location within the share, and after due advertising, with no objections being raised, this would be done.

April 20, 1957

The Many Hills of Nantucket Offer a Diversity of Views

When you think of a "view" the first thing that comes to your mind is a hill. One would not think of Nantucket as being very hilly, and yet we have many vantage points from which the views are exceptionally beautiful. Perhaps this is due to the very fact that there are no mountainous hills to cut off the view. Of course, many of these promontories are nothing more than overgrown sand dunes, but the glacier did deposit quite a ridge from which we may benefit today.

As one approaches the island wharves by steamer the first rise of land which meets the eye is Orange Street Hill, where the Inquirer and Mirror has had its office for years. This was once called Quanato Hill — showing the Indian influence as to nomenclature at the very outset. At one time this hill was cut away on the east side and the section "below the bank" was spread out to form the Union Street-Washington Street area.

The Unitarian Church, with its gold-domed tower, commands a tremendous view out over every section of the town and off to sea as well. It was once used as the watch tower for all of the town where vigil was kept night and day for over 100 years. Because of insurance laws it is no longer possible to go up to the tower any more but there are many old photographs by Henry Wyer showing the town from that bird's-eye view.

It would be interesting to take a modern series and compare them. Perhaps the resting of the birds in television antennae would be the greatest change. Also to be noted would be the loss of many of our tall trees, including the famous Main Street elms which were planted over a hundred years ago by the Coffin brothers. The Tree Commission is doing a fine replacement job but it takes a long time for trees to attain any size what with the wind, salt spray, and type of soil they have to combat. However, many of the old buildings remain and the comparison would be an interesting one.

Away to the southwest is the hill on which the Old Mill stands. The mill is the only remaining one of a series which stood along Popsquatchet Hills, that rim the edge of town to the west. This mill was built in 1746 by Nathan Wilbur. He did a monumental job with an unusual arrangement for the top of the mill which was connected by a long shaft to a huge wheel. This wheel was pulled by a horse until the top of the mill faced into the wind, from whatever quarter "she blew" and thus the miller avoided idle hours.

One thing is certain — no matter which way the miller faced he had a superb view because, from its wind-dows, you may look off to the south shore over the commons, down on the

then-busy harbor to the east, the beams of Sankaty Light show clear at night, and the airport blue and red and white lights are clearly visible today. As you stand at the northern stile there is a fine section of rooftops of town which are interspersed with all of the church towers almost in line, and with the spacious grounds and walled garden of "Moors End" in the foreground.

The Oldest House on Sunset Hill has always been a favorite spot. This is a superb place to watch the sunset and take color slides with the full sweep of western sky, undisturbed by telephone poles and wires. As you leave the grounds of the Oldest House there is a fine view out over the Lily Pond area, rimmed by many landmarks of the town—the Academy Hill School, the churches, the Gardner house below, and Gull Island.

Let us go to Academy Hill next. There, on the top floor of the North School is a fine harbor view which is worth the climb. Out to the west one sees the place where the original settlement used to be — old Sherburne all along the bluffs to Capaum (once harbor, now pond).

And there is another vantage point to get a view — the Bluffs — those abrupt heights which leave the rest of our island safely behind their barrier in the winds and waves of winter. From Cliffside to Dionis the view of the ocean to the north is a healing sight, which has inspired many a poet to raptures. And it looks out over some of the best swimming and sailing waters in the country.

Round about the island are many land-locked fresh water ponds. These are shaped distinctively as one may see when arriving on the island by air — which is much like looking at a map in technicolor. A small hill on the far side of Long Pond gives

a nice closeup of the ducks and water birds which seem to consider this their private preserves. Just beyond is Eel Point, a good sunset spot.

Hummock Pond is shaped like a pair of breeches of the "plus four" variety. It has many lovely landscape views which are worth pursuing, but a jeep is the best vehicle for the north side. Hummock Pond Road is a macadam one, which takes you along to Cisco where the pond meets the sea with its narrow strip of beach.

Rimming the island we come to Miacomet, after passing Reed Pond, and Mioxes which are not very significant in size. Out beyond Siasconset is

the loveliest pond of all, in many people's minds, and that is Sesachacha (variously spelled) but pronounced "Sakacha." On the Quidnet side one comes across a hollow where the bluff and Sankaty Light settles into the cleft as though placed there on purpose.

The view from Sankaty itself is an undisturbed marine seascape which stretches on to Spain. There is a peaceful serenity which comes from the long view here which rivals the traditional "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills." A proper islander looks off to sea instead, keeping his "weather eye peeled" the while.

Just as one enters Siasconset from the southwest there is a hill which gives a sweep of the cranberry bog which has been claimed the largest single bog in existence. Sankaty Light-house with its charming white-red-white stripes shows up gallantly

against the horizon. This fishing village nestles in a small area of the island which is highly esteemed by those who inhabit it. Originally there were a few shacks for the purpose of off-shore fishing during the season. These shanties are now the epitome of architecture and one considers himself most fortunate to own or rent eyes to see.

these tiny homes with their "warts," the name given the rooms added when it was necessary during the years of use. When the roses are in bloom these cottages have rose-capped roofs, and one readily sees why they are so popular — though many a man must have bumped his head on the low ceilings.

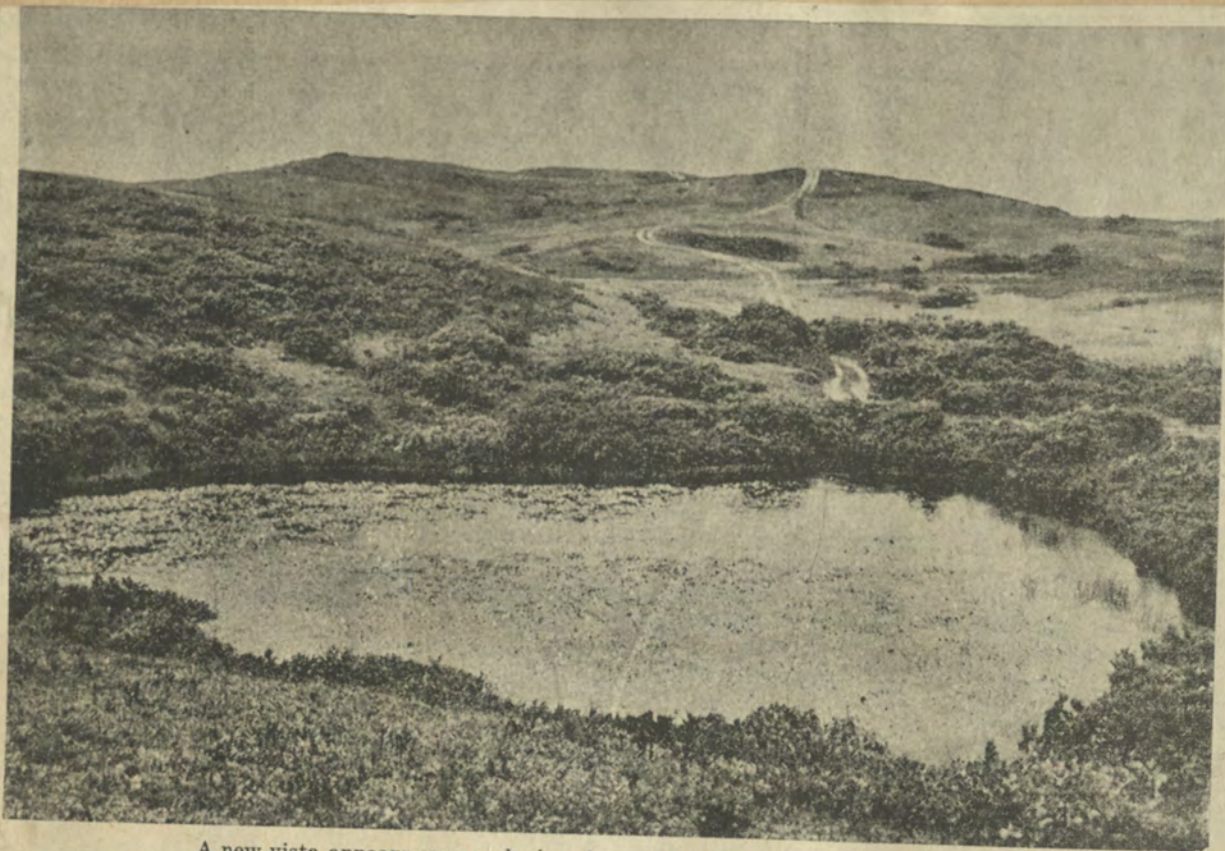
Between 'Sconset and town is an area known as "the Commons," where sheep once ranged at will — save at sheep-shearing time. Here is where the glacial ridge with its many boulders is to be found. It is a wonderful place to explore, with the many rises of land giving unexpected views in every direction — but you need a jeep, as rutted roads lead in a maze all over this area. It is what the British would call heath and makes a wonderful place to walk for those who have the time and energy.

Around the rim of the harbor are many other vantage points. To mention a few — there is Pocomo Head, Shimmo, Fudge Hill, Polpis Head, the "whale bone hill," and Monomoy. Wherever you go there is an extensive picture because our hills are rolling and low, and there is much that can go into a picture album—even in the wintertime, if you have



A glimpse of the sea beyond the dunes.

Jan. 22, 1960



A new vista appears over each rise of ground as you travel over the "moors."



A view of the Cliff section taken from the First Congregational Church tower a few decades ago.

Jan. 22, 1960

Notice to Investors!

A Rare Chance to Buy

....REAL ESTATE....

at about 40 PER CENT. of actual value. TO CLOSE AN ESTATE,

And also on account of declining years and ill-health of present holder, the extensive farm of about 400 acres known as **QUAISE** and belonging for nearly the last 50 years to the late George C. Gardner, is now to be sacrificed by practically giving it away, in order to wind up the affairs of the said deceased. An opportunity of such magnitude was never before offered on this island, not excepting the purchase of the island from the Indians by the original settlers, at which time this very tract of land was reserved by the Indians, so long as they should exist, as their reservation on which to spend their lives, the place being so well adapted by nature to supply the necessities of life from hunting, fishing and agriculture. The ranch is bounded on one side by 1 1/2 miles of harbor front, where yachts and various other craft daily pass to and from the open sea. Bathing along this shore is superb, no sharks or anything of the kind ever to be feared, and a clean beach. A beautiful bluff, admirably adapted for over 200 cottage lots, forms the back-ground of a part of the shore. In ploughing or working the soil, Indian relics have often been found, and there is standing today the very house in which Abram Quary, the last Indian, passed the remainder of his life. All of the nice Southdown Sheep, which alone will pay 7 per cent. on asking price, and all other Live Stock now on the place, will be included in the sale. Both well and spring water on the place, the spring being of unequalled purity, having constantly flowed since the earliest recollections, and by the side of which many an Indian council was held. For a **CLUB** to own or for a fine country seat, this place has not an equal on the island, and will be sold, on account of the reasons stated, for the very small sum of

\$7,000 **\$7,000** **\$7,000**

Also another fine farm of less area, but of unsurpassed fertility, and on which is situated the homestead of the late Mr. Gardner, the same being in perfect condition, having never been neglected or allowed to be in anything but the best of order since it was built. The premises are bordered with maple trees, fully developed, affording ample shade and insuring relief from the hot sun of summer. A large pond, with ducks and geese, is situated at a proper distance from the house. Electric light lines pass the premises. City water on the place. Also a good well. It is within a few minutes' walk of post office, is bounded on three sides by the highway, and is practically a beautiful place right in the town, as the street is well built up beyond it, and the surrounding territory rapidly being covered by summer cottages. This fine piece of property, including numerous out-buildings and all the live stock, can be bought for

\$12,000 **\$12,000** **\$12,000**

TITLES ABSOLUTE.

Apply to A. T. MOWRY, Real Estate Agent,
or J. C. GARDNER.

m20

4p 5&6c

QUAISE FARM AT AUCTION.

Will be sold at Public Auction at 10 o'clock, on the 14th of 3d month, (March) in front of Joseph B. Swain's office, that valuable Farm at Quaise, belonging to the Town of Nantucket, containing 225 Acres, be the same more or less, about 16 Acres of which is Salt Marsh, together with the house, barns, and all other buildings thereon standing, with all their appurtenances also, the Hay, Farming Utensils, Dairy Furniture, Manure and Stock, consisting of 17 Cows, 1 Yoke of Oxen, 1 pair of tags, 1 Bull, 3 Yearling Calves, 2 Horses, 1 Colt, and 1 breeding Sow;—Subject to the following reservations and exceptions, viz:—Reserving all the buildings, fences and appurtenances now occupied by the Poor Department and House of Correction; reserving also the delivery of the Dwelling House to the purchaser for each time a may be necessary for the removal of the Aylum buildings and House of Correction from the Farm, and preparing them for the reception of the inmates; excepting also the right of a public road through said farm to the harbor; and also excepting a burial ground, containing about a quarter of an Acre; all of which, with the above exceptions, to be sold in one lot, on the following terms:—30 per cent. of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the delivery of the deed, the balance by Note at 7 years bearing interest, conditional that \$400 of the principal shall be paid annually, with the interest then due, and to be further secured by a mortgage on the Farm.

On behalf of the Town's Committee,
THOMAS MACY, Chairman.
G. RHAM MACY, Auctioneer.
Nantucket, 2d mo. 27th, 1854.

P. S.—Notice is hereby given that circumstances have made it necessary to change the order of sale of the above property, viz:—The Farm will be sold in town as advertised, and the Hay, Stock and Farming Utensils, in lots, will be sold on the Farm on the next day, the 14th inst., at 10 o'clock, if fair weather, if not, then the first fair day, when public notice will be given.

On behalf of the committee,
3d mo 31, 1854. THOS. MACY, Chairman.

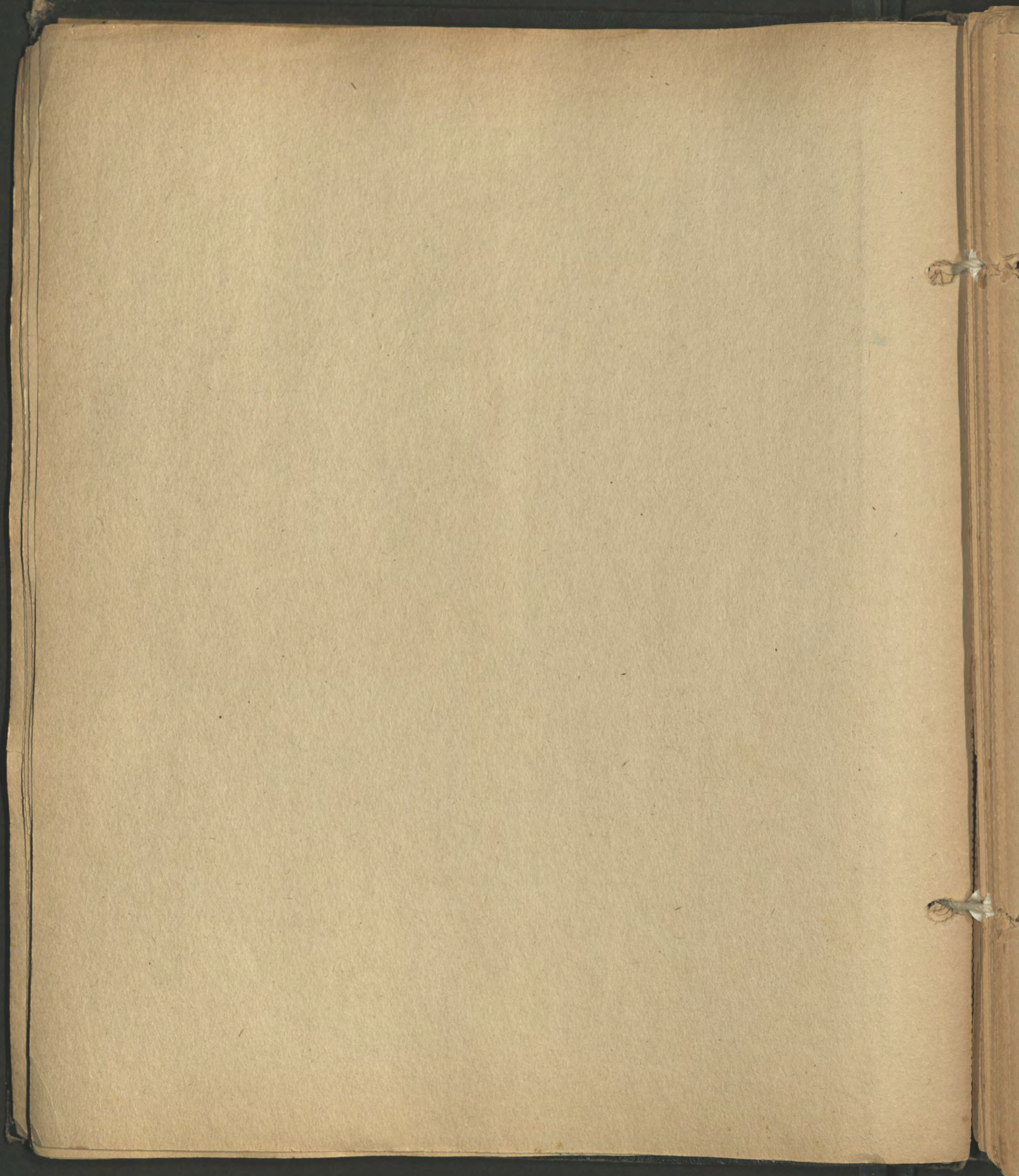
Purchased Quaise Point Property.

It is pleasing to announce that in addition to his "thousand-acre chicken farm" at Tom Nevers Head, Edwin J. Hollister, of Hasbrouck Heights, N. J., and Nantucket, has purchased of Mrs. E. B. Harps the five hundred acres situated on the south side of Nantucket harbor known as "Quaise Point," where we understand he intends to establish a sheep farm. The sale of the Quaise property is the most important deal that has been consummated on Nantucket since Mr. Hollister secured the Tom Nevers property a couple of years ago, and it is all in line with the future development of Nantucket island, which is generally acknowledged to be a most promising location for the establishment of poultry farms and the sheep-raising industry.

Aug. 27, 1899

Apr. 1854

Aug. 12, 1899



QUAISE

Selectmen Learn Facts About Road Through Quaise.

Hon. Joseph T. Kenney, the town's attorney, informed the Selectmen, Wednesday evening, that the land at Quaise has been registered in the Land Court and that the only road which can legally be used is that at the westward extending from Polpis road to the harbor shore. The road which has been used for so many years, extending from the main highway to Quaise point, is not the road retained for the use of the public when the petition of B. Karl Sharp was in the Land Court in September, 1926, according to the information which Mr. Kenney divulged for the benefit of the Selectmen—a real surprise party, it proved to be.

The property known as Quaise farm once belonged to the town of Nantucket, but many years ago it was sold to George C. Gardner with the stipulation that a road should always be maintained through the farm, from the Polpis road to the harbor, for the use of the public. Throughout the years that have passed and through successive owners, the public has used the road leading down to Quaise Point and it has been generally accepted as a road which would always be retained in order that the people of the town might have access to Quaise Point and Polpis Harbor, which is a favorite section for gathering clams and scallops.

The petition of Mr. Sharp for registration of his land came before the Land Court in September, 1926, after the same had been published three weeks and proper warning given the inhabitants of Nantucket and other parties affected by the petition. In the deed from the town issued many years ago was the provision that there must always be maintained a road leading through Quaise farm to the harbor. The deed makes no reference to a road leading down to Quaise Point, as was generally supposed.

R. T. Fitz-Randolph, who at that time was the town's attorney, signed an agreement for the town (which is now a matter of record) by which it was agreed between the petitioner Sharp and the town that a road 25 feet wide shall be laid out along the west line of Sharp's land to the harbor. By this action, according to Attorney Kenney, the town signed away any rights it may have had in the present travelled road leading down to Quaise Point and agreed to accept a road on the west line of the Quaise farm property leading to the harbor. The land at Quaise having been registered in the Land Court and the agreement and plan placed on record, the Selectmen were rather perplexed over the situation which had been outlined, especially as the public desires to continue using the travelled road to the point as it has existed so many years.

Petition Filed For Old Road to Quaise Point.

The people of Nantucket are considerably disturbed because the rights and privileges of the public down to Quaise point have not been preserved, as was the intention of the town more than half a century ago when it sold Quaise farm to George C. Gardner. At that time the west end of the farm property was occupied with sheep pens, cow yards, several barns and other buildings, and there was a lane running through the numerous enclosures, the road then continuing down to the point. This same road has been used for many, many years by hundreds of our citizens every year, even though all vestige of the old sheep farm have passed, with the exception of the ponds.

It is to Quaise point that our people go for clams and scallops, to catch eels and to fish. It is the main thoroughfare down to Polpis harbor and the people of Nantucket have used it for generations with the understanding that when it sold Quaise farm the town preserved the rights of the public to the point for all time to come.

But it seems that the ownership of the property has changed several times since then, passing from heirs of George C. Gardner to Edgar J. Hollister, and then to Karl Sharp. The latter petitioned the Land Court for title to the property and in doing so provided for a road-way from the Polpis road to the harbor along the west side of the farm-land, where a road had never before existed. This was all that the deed given by the town required—a road from Polpis road to the harbor—but it was *not what the town intended* nor what the public has thought it was legally entitled to. What the people want is the right to go to Quaise point, just as their fathers and grandfathers have done before them.

Through some over-sight the case went through the Land Court some time ago and the local authorities did not realize what was up until the town's attorney informed them that there was an agreement on file whereby the town accepted a road on the west side of Quaise farm and not the travelled road to Quaise point.

When this situation was explained to the Selectmen there was consternation. When the townspeople learned of it, there was indignation. Now the local authorities are planning to take immediate steps to secure the old road, even if it does mean a lot of trouble and expense.

The County Commissioners have received a petition signed by O. V. Hull and thirty-two others, asking that a county road be laid out through Quaise from the gate on the Polpis road to the point. This seems to be the first step to take in the matter. At present, Quaise property is unimproved land and is mostly swamp-land and marshes. But it leads to Quaise point—and that is what the people want.

They do not want a road on the west side of the property, extending from Polpis road to the shore of the harbor, for that is a long distance away from Polpis harbor, from the clam flats, the scallops, the eels, etc. At present the road is impassable along the west side, anyway, and it ends at the bluff, which means absolutely nothing to those who have been going to Quaise point these many years.

So there the situation stands. The County Commissioners have received the petition for the lay-out of a road through Quaise and they have set Monday, January 9th, as the time for holding a hearing thereon. There is no doubt but there will be a good attendance and everybody who is interested in this matter should make a point to be on hand. *The people want the road to Quaise point.*

Quaise Notes.

The Misses Marie Madeline Donnet and Virginia Gilson, of Summit, New Jersey, arrived on Thursday to visit Janet Firth. Miss Donnet has been attending the Theodora Irvin Dramatic Studio for the past five weeks.

Dr. Wilder and his family from Springfield, Mass., are now well established in the Miriam Coffin House.

Miss Cynthia Drake, who is spending the summer months at Brewster, was visiting at the Firth cottage last week-end.

The famous "rainbow stones" at Quaise have now made quite a name for themselves. They seem to have the faculty of scattering themselves around the country, and some have even been known to return home again after an absence of a week. At present the blue and greens seem to be keeping company by themselves, and the people of Quaise are hoping that some day soon some of the brighter ones will return.

QUAISE

With its addition of the historic Miriam Coffin estate, now comprising an area of 500 acres and upwards, bounded on three sides by the salt water and on the south by the main road, being a tract nearly one mile square, is all offered for sale at last year's price. Apply to

J. C. GARDNER, West End Market,
or A. T. MOWRY, Real Estate Agent.

Miriam Coffin T. House

A refreshing Cup of Tea—a Cool Drink—a Delicious Salad—perhaps a Sandwich—and surely one of Miriam's Waffles, with real Maple Syrup (some she smuggled, no doubt).

Any of these good things may be had, combined with a view that surpasses any on the island.

Open for the season from July 4th to September 4th.

Special parties arranged for. Telephone 178-11.

POLPIS ROAD

FOUR MILES FROM TOWN

Miriam Coffin's Country House at Quaise.

Persons who read of Miriam Coffin, or books on early Nantucket, are curious to know if her country house at Quaise did really have a private passage, partially concealed, that led to the water, where she frequently had contraband dry goods conveyed in small boats late in the evening, when all was quiet, by two or more men who were pledged to secrecy. I will tell the story as Benjamin Franklin Folger, who is good authority of much that took place during his day and time, told me.

He said: "I was very anxious as well as curious to find about there being anything of the kind, so one day I went berry picking alone, as was my usual custom. I managed not to be seen and went where I often had been told the entrance might be found, and while I was scrambling away grass and wild rubbish, there came along an old farmer man who said: 'What you up to, trying to find that old Tory's smuggling hole?'"

"I was a little vexed, but I just laughed and said: 'Well, perhaps there is no such hole as you call it.' 'Yes, there is,' he replied, 'I've been in it.'"

"So I then said, 'Well, am I on the right track?' He said, 'There is some work to be done, for I found stones and all kinds of rubbish, and that was several years ago.'"

"'Well,' I said, indifferently, and he went about his business. I went to work and soon came to an opening and in a few days, after the air had passed through the opening, I crawled in and found, just as he had told me, quite a strange place, and in the center I could stand nearly straight. All was time-worn, and very much decayed, but I saw all that I needed to convince me of what had been told of the crafty business she had had the private room arranged for. No doubt she was a very capable woman, but lacking much in principle."

"The present owner, Wm. Starbuck (present tax collector), lives there. His wife's father (Simeon Macy) great-grandson of the famed Zaccheus Macy, owned and lived there with his family, just as Miriam built it, and was quite famous for several years. After his death, Mr. and Mrs. Starbuck came in possession of the place, and had the old mansion removed and a more modern one erected in its place. So all traces of the former fixtures of Miriam Coffin's have passed away."

Copied from Eliza W. Mitchell's personal reminiscences, aged 87 when written.

MIRIAM COFFIN T HOUSE AND GIFT SHOP

On the Polpis road, with commanding view of moors and harbor. Arrangements may be made for special suppers, bridge and other parties.

Tel. 178-11

Harriet E. Hollister, Prop.

When The Town Sold Quaise To George C. Gardner.

Recent developments in connection with Quaise and the rights and privileges of the public to Quaise point, have been of more than general interest to Nantucketers. From the year 1822 to the year 1855 the town of Nantucket owned and operated Quaise as the "town farm". It was there that the town asylum was located and the town raised cattle and crops there for many years.

In 1844 the building occupied as the asylum was destroyed by fire and ten of the inmates were burned to death. Their remains were buried on the farm property, in a section set apart as the Quaise burial ground. When the Polpis road was re-located in 1884, the new highway was laid out through the Quaise farm property, which brought the burial ground on the south side of the road and outside of the fence. Its location is not known to the average person today and very few people who drive over the Polpis highway now realize that there is a burial ground but a short distance to the south of the road, nearly opposite Quaise Gate.

When the town sold Quaise farm to George C. Gardner in 1855 it reserved the privileges of a road to the harbor for the use of the inhabitants of Nantucket forever. There is no question in the minds of anyone that inasmuch as the road leading down to Quaise point was the road then used, and has been used ever since, it was this road (to the point) that the town intended to be reserved.

But a question has been raised under which the present owners of the farm property determine that "a road to the harbor" does not mean "a road to Quaise point" and this attitude has resulted in an effort by the townspeople to have the County Commissioners authorized and instructed to take steps to regain the rights and privileges of the road to Quaise point.

The Finance Committee had the matter under consideration this week and have recommended to the town that the Selectmen investigate the situation more thoroughly, acting under the advice of the town counsel. There is much interest in the whole affair and a feeling throughout the community that the rights which have been enjoyed by the public for many years should not be taken away. In this connection our readers will probably appreciate the opportunity to

read a copy of the deed given by the town to George C. Gardner nearly three-quarters of a century ago, which is appended herewith:

Warranty Deed.

Book 52, Page 100, 101 and 102.

Grantor: Inhabitants of the Town of Nantucket, in County of Nantucket, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Date Inst. March 28, 1855.

Date Ack. March 28, 1855.

Date Rec. April 7, 1855.

Consideration, \$3,600 paid by George C. Gardner of said Nantucket, merchant.

Grantee, George C. Gardner.

Habendum to George C. Gardner, his heirs and assigns.

Convenants, Full and free Dower and

Signed, Inhabitants of Nantucket, by the hands of John H. Shaw, Isaiah F. Robinson, Edward Hammond, Justin Lawrence, Elisha Smith, James Thompson, and Alexander B. Robinson, Selectmen of said Town of Nantucket.

Acknowledged by above Selectmen, before Asa G. Bunker, Justice of Peace.

Description.

A certain quantity of land, situated in Nantucket aforesaid, called and known by the name of the John Elkins farm or East Quaise, being butted and bounded as follows; viz.,

On the West by land which Obed Mitchell sold to Simeon Macy.

On the North by the harbor.

On the East by Polpis harbor, with the exception of the legal roads on said Harbor, and

On the South by the Road or Highway, containing two hundred and fifty acres, be the quantity more or less, together with all the Salt Meadow Land, and being at the north-west of Quaise including a piece of Salt Meadow Land lying and being on the West side of the Creek and adjoining the said creek, which creek is called and known by the name of Shakemmo Creek—the said Salt Meadow Land contains and admeasures thirteen acres or thereabouts being all that the said Inhabitants own at that place.

Also the said Inhabitants hereby convey all the right to the Peat Swamp which Obed Mitchell reserved when he made his deed to Simeon Macy of the Middle part of Quaise—together with the houses, barns and buildings standing thereon and all the fences belonging thereto, excepting from this grant a road through said Farm to the Harbor, and excepting from this grant the Burying Ground within said Farm which contains about one quarter of an acre. The premises hereby conveyed being the same which Samuel Mitchell, Daniel Thornton and Rachel Thornton sold and conveyed to the said Inhabitants of the Town of Nantucket, by deed of the eighteenth day of the Fourth month, April, eighteen hundred and Twenty-two, recorded on pp. 55, 56 and 57, Book No. 27, of the Records of Deeds for the said County of Nantucket."

Town Counsel Renders Opinion on Public Rights in Quaise.

Hon. George M. Poland, town counsel, has rendered his opinion to the Selectmen bearing on the question of the rights of the people of Nantucket as a town in the section known as Quaise. This decision makes it quite clear that whatever rights the town may have reserved to itself when it sold the land to George C. Gardner in 1855, have been lost, and in place thereof the town in 1926 (without knowledge of the public at large) accepted a right of way twenty-five feet wide on the westerly side of the enclosure known as Quaise, extending from the Polpis road to the shore.

This right of way is practically of no use as a thoroughfare and is not passable at present; furthermore, it ends on the bluff at the shore of the harbor—a long distance away from Quaise point, and is entirely useless to the inhabitants of the town for the purposes for which the town made its reservation in 1855. That the town has lost its rights through Quaise to the point is deeply regretted by all, and there would seem to be no way to regain them except through action by the County Commissioners in laying out a road to the point through the entire length of the pasture. This would probably be a very costly method of procedure, for it would mean condemning land and separating Quaise into two sections.

In final conclusion Judge Poland said in his opinion to the Selectmen: "No legal proceedings of any kind are possible in any court to vacate or alter the decree of the Land Court or to change the location of the way to the harbor shown on said plan without the consent of the registered owner of the premises."

So the people of Nantucket will probably have to abide by the Land Court decree and see the rights which were reserved to them in 1855 pass into oblivion.

Judge Poland's opinion, as rendered to the Selectmen, reads as follows:

SUDDEN DEATH.—We this morning announce the death of Mr. Edward Chase, of Polpis, which occurred in that village on Monday evening. Mr. Chase performed his customary labor upon his farm on Monday, but in the evening complained of feeling unwell, and a few moments later told his wife he believed he was dying, and before assistance could be called he breathed his last.—Mr. Chase was a well known and upright citizen, and leaves a large family to mourn his sudden demise.

Nantucket Native of Eighty-four Recalls Road Location.

The Polpis road, as it now runs from town to 'Sconset, has its fiftieth anniversary this week. It was in May, 1884, that Richard E. Burgess, who had been awarded the contract for the road-building, began the work.

A surveyor by the name of Jared Norton laid out the line of the new road bed. The old road, which had been in constant use for one hundred and seventy-five years, had been found inadequate for the needs of the day. It was a typically winding, settlers' road following the line of least resistance, up the sides of hills and down through the hollows.

The man who has the best knowledge of the situation of this old road, as well as the re-location, the sites of the old farms, and other interesting and historical data, is James H. Gibbs, of 21 Pine street, in this town. Mr. Gibbs observed his 84th birthday last week and, with relatives and friends clustered about him, declared that with each year his anniversaries become ever happier. He is a typical Nantucketer of the old school, with a keen memory, and of unquestioned veracity.

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gibbs are the second oldest married couple on the island. Known to many by the revealing island titles of "Uncle Jay" and "Aunt Alice", they offer a fine picture of devotion through more than half a century of married life.

Mr. Gibbs was born on an island farm, and through his many years as farmer and caretaker at the east end of the island, he knows more about this section of Nantucket than any other man now living. Although he has spent most of his life working farms, Mr. Gibbs, as a young man, made one voyage whaling, sailing on the New Bedford whaler "Herald" in 1868, on a voyage to the Indian Ocean. "It was an experience that did me a wonderful lot of good," he declared, "as it gave me a touch of sailing that taught the value of patience and frugality."

Several days ago, we went motoring over the Polpis road with Mr. Gibbs. As we passed by the various farms on the way, he became reminiscent, and, through the medium of his remarkable and unfailing memory, recalled the picture of that olden day, with the original Polpis road winding its way past the farms of Shimmo, Shawkemo, Quaise and Polpis.

We passed by what is now known as the Mooney farm. "This is one of the best farming tracts on the island," said Mr. Gibbs. "Richard Burgess owned it as I first remember. I worked for him as a boy. He was a practical farmer in every way, and had a reputation for being a driver. Well, I always got along with him, perhaps because I was willing to work—and we did work in those days. I can remember of getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning, and after milking the cows, setting out for Low Beach, at 'Sconset, with an ox-team, for a load of sea-weed."

Through the Shimmo hills, he kept up his interesting and illuminating discourse. "I can remember when these hills held many a flock of sheep and they grazed side by side with the cows. Speaking of sheep reminds me of when my father owned the big farm at Plainfield, now Coffin's farm. The sheep used to graze all over that area. And when it came time to round them up for shearing, I would pick out the best ones first and chase them until I caught them. Yes, I was a lively lad in those days. Later, Father moved to Shimmo Valley farm."

Up the hill by the Gordon farm, Mr. Gibbs pointed out the knoll on the north side of the road where George F. Folger, the owner of the property for many years, had his farm house.

The most interesting part of the road was at Quaise, where considerable land had been purchased by the town for relocating the road. Here, Mr. Gibbs demonstrated how valuable his keen memory can be, for he not only pointed out the location of the original road (that ran some distance to the south) but also showed us where the little-known Quaise burying ground is situated.

Within the fenced-in property to the north of the road, was located many buildings of the Quaise Town Farm, later purchased by George C. Gardner, for whose son, Harrison Gardner, Mr. Gibbs was manager for several years.

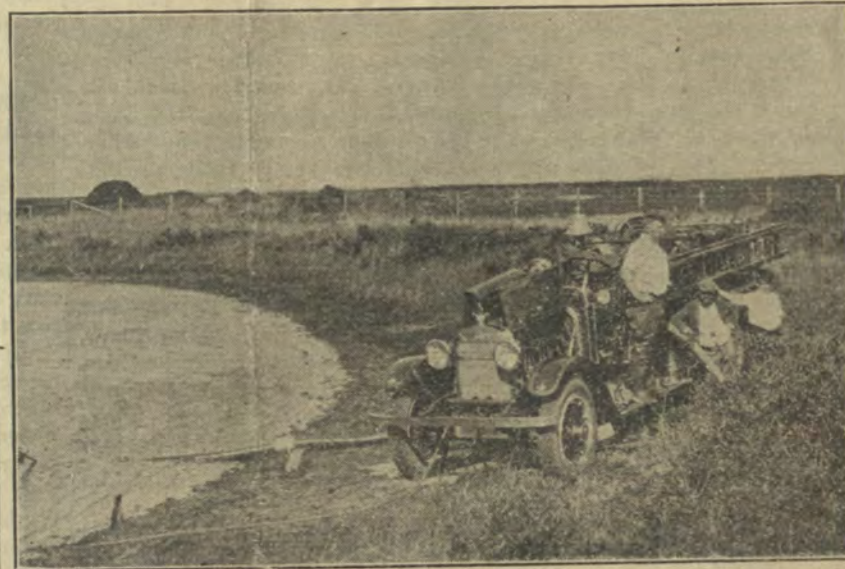
"Here was the spot where the big barn stood," said Mr. Gibbs pointing out a stone-walled cellar hole; "and there was the sheep-run. Over there where the big asylum burned, yes, the one in which ten inmates were burned to death. A new building was built here following that fire. We had a first-rate farm here when Mr. Gardner took it over from the town, and we kept it going for a long time after. Mrs. Gibbs and I had some good times entertaining the young folks in the big room of the main house. They would come from all around of a Saturday night, bringing lots of good things to eat, for their party—clear the room of furniture and, with Mrs. Gibbs at the piano, they would have a real good time dancing and singing. We knew how to have a good time in those days."

He went on to describe the lay-out of the road. "Yes, it was in '84 that the town voted to straighten the road through Quaise Farm. There were a number of committees working out the plans. Harrison Gardner, Hiram C. Folger and Will Chadwick were the final committee, although Will Smith, Richard Burgess and Farmer McIntosh were on another committee. The old road ran to the south, you see, and when they laid out the new one by putting it through Quaise farm, they relocated it to the Milton farm, the road being of gravel hardened with clay loam, and being about twenty-two feet wide. From the Milton Farm to 'Sconset was the hardest part of the job, as it had to connect Capt. Charles Starbuck's lane on one end, over the commons to Fred Pitman's lane at the 'Sconset end."

While discussing the land in general Mr. Gibbs called our attention to the glacial rock scattered over a wide area in Quaise. "There was a lot of stone here, and we built cellars and stone walls with it. Where has most of it gone? Why, we carted it down to the shore, and put it on barges, selling it to the government for the jetties—oh, yes, we sold it at ten cents a ton. I guess you're right, we did have to work for our money in those days."

HISTORY UNKNOWN.—While plowing a field on the Samuel Barker farm at Quaise, a few day since, Mr. R. E. Burgess unearthed an iron shot weighing about four pounds. Where it came from is a question that is likely to remain unsolved.

Oct. 17, 1885



Where the Stutz motor-pumper spent Sunday afternoon—on the shore of Quaise pond, working hard to throw water on the burning peat-bog. "Red" Haddon, one of the drivers, is standing on the running-board watching for a signal from the hose-men 2,000 feet away.

Aug. 10, 1929

Cottage Destroyed.

One of the cottages standing on the bluff at Quaise was totally destroyed by fire last Saturday morning and the occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Hartigan, lost their personal effects, including money and jewelry, estimated at value well into hundreds of dollars.

The fire apparently started from a kerosene stove and gained headway so rapidly that efforts of those who reached the scene as soon as possible were apparently useless. Harry Gordon and some of his men rushed over from the Ford garage, a half mile or more away, and for a time held the flames in check with extinguishers, but when these were exhausted the flames continued to devour the cottage until all that was left standing was the chimney.

It happened that at the time the telephone line was out of order and parties driving down over the Polpis road found the nearest phone in service at Hatch's filling station on lower Orange street. Before the central fire station could be called the building was doomed, but two pieces of apparatus responded and made the run out to the scene in time to handle the situation were there danger of the fire spreading to near-by property.

From the first publication of the Mirror we have had a weekly visit from a worthy inmate of the Quaise, whom we have regularly furnished with a copy for the benefit of the residents of that establishment. When he dropped in on Saturday last, with the usual inquiry for the news of the day, we noticed a sly smile upon his countenance, dropping sundry hints, innuendos, etc., of an important event which was soon to take place at the Asylum, and being evidently in a gleeful mood at the prospect. Wrapped in complete darkness as to the nature of the event, and the actors, we thought best to let time unravel the mystery, which it has done, being nothing less than the union of our visitant in the bonds matrimonial. Well might he look wise, and with a laughing face, promise us news.

March 28, 1846

Married.

In this town, on Sunday evening last, (at Quaise) by Rev. Freeman Shearman, Mr. Henry Coleman to Mrs. Mary Griffith.

Aug. 22, 1941

Miriam Coffin's Tunnel.

The story "Three Boys and a Tunnel," which appears in this issue, was written by Edouard Stackpole, of the class of 1922 of the Nantucket High School, in the Nantucket Historical Society's contest. It is an original story, written in a very readable manner, and deals with the tunnel which tradition says once existed between the Miriam Coffin house at Quaise and the shore.

Three Boys—and a Tunnel.

By Edouard Stackpole, Class of 1922,
Nantucket High School.

We do not believe in ghosts; that is, a good many of us do not. Then we are a bit skeptical about buried treasure; that is, we older folks are. But to the growing boy the first lends a delicious feeling of creepiness, while the treasure has a weird fascination about it, and holds an adventure numbered among his most cherished ambitions. What Nantucket boy is there who, in boyhood dreams, did not seek after the hidden hoard of Captain Kidd, or lay deep plans to find Keziah Coffin's lost tunnel?

But what have ghosts and buried treasure to do with my story, or, as my narrative concerns it, with sober, staid Nantucket? Who ever heard of fabled wealth guarded by ghostly sentinels around our quiet shores? Nevertheless, it plays the central role, inasmuch as we assume that there is a central role; and, although it is not making its debut upon the story-teller's stage, it will hold your interest, I hope, mainly because of its queer relation to quaint Nantucket.

On one of those "rare" days of which June can boast, when the sun shines out of a cloudless sky, and a cool sea-breeze caresses the cheek, three Island boys were slowly trudging along the dusty Polpis road. A wonderful carpet of moorland lay on one side, losing itself in wood, meadow, and swamp; and on the left stretched the blue bay, and shone the five silvery points of Coatue. The lazy hum of bumble-bees was everywhere, and the air was spicy with sweetfern and clover; but these fellows were out for adventure, not scenery.

Jack, who walked in advance of his chums, was evidently the leader. His keen, determined look and knobby fists indicated the born chief, too. Puffing behind came rosy Tom, whose fat figure and good-natured face suggested apple pie and spice cake; and Bill, whose cheery visage and wiry form brought up the rear. They walked along in silence, with heads bent, their ample lunchboxes swinging idly from their shoulders.

"Say," exclaimed chubby Tom, at length, mopping his wet forehead with his coat sleeve, "let's rest. I'm steaming like the 'Sconset Limited.'" So saying, he dropped down into the shade of a little pine tree. Bill laughingly followed suit; and Jack, slamming his heavy lunch-box on the others, sat down too.

For a few moments all were still; but the explosive Tom, being hungry, and wishing to draw Jack's attention from the lunch boxes he guarded, asked blandly, "Tell us more about that treasure tunnel, will you, Jack?"

Jack smiled knowingly at Bill, took up a more strategic position nearer the lunch boxes, and launched forth. "Today," he began, "as you sail up the harbor, you both know Shimmo Point. Rounding this, you come upon the gentle slope which the Indians named Quaise. Here, on a little knoll, where, in early colonial times, a cluster of brown wigwags stood, the famous Miriam, or Keziah, Coffin built her country house. But why in this lonely spot? It was an ideal place for her illegal trade."

Tom, forgetting the lunch boxes, edged closer to the speaker; Bill relaxed against a fence post, and listened with eyes half closed.

"Miriam Coffin," continued Jack, "besides being clever and daring, was a shrewd business woman; but she over did it. She had control of the trade here, and thus was able to charge war prices for sugar, flour, and cloth, things the islanders really needed during the Revolution. Some of them, unable to pay this, were almost starving."

"I'm inclined to believe," interrupted Tom, reflectively, "that Miriam had nothing on you when it comes to starving folks."

"Yes; you do look starved," said Bill, sarcastically observing the fat boy.

"But Miriam was not satisfied with a monopoly of the trade," went on Jack, not noticing. "She built that country house for a purpose; namely, to trade with mysterious sailing vessels"—

"Smuggling," murmured Bill, with satisfaction.

"The townsfolk, suspecting as much, organized a party to investigate. Your great grandfather, Tom, and Bill's great-uncle were two." Jack's voice was dreamy. "The house commanded a clear view of the harbor, way out to the bar, as you'll see when you get there; but a fringe of willows grew along the shore. When the town surprise party attempted to grab the smugglers, as they landed one foggy night, Miriam's 'friends' vanished into these bushes."

"Then the tunnel begins there!" broke in Bill, excitedly.

"Undoubtedly," rejoined Jack, "but the opening must have caved in long ago. Nobody has ever found it; and Mr. Roland Hussey, Mr. John Folger, Mr. Levi Coffin, and such men as that, say it's a myth. Mr. Arthur H. Gardner says, 'No foundation whatsoever.' I guess they all hunted for it years ago."

Then came a volley of questions; but the lad refused to add to his story, and soon the boys resumed their journey.

Before noon they came in sight of an old, deserted house, still a familiar landmark on the Polpis road. This, Jack told them, was only a few yards from Miriam's old cellar hole. It was an old, weather-beaten structure, well back from the road, the boarded up windows and gray, forbidding exterior seeming to cast a mysterious gloom over the project.

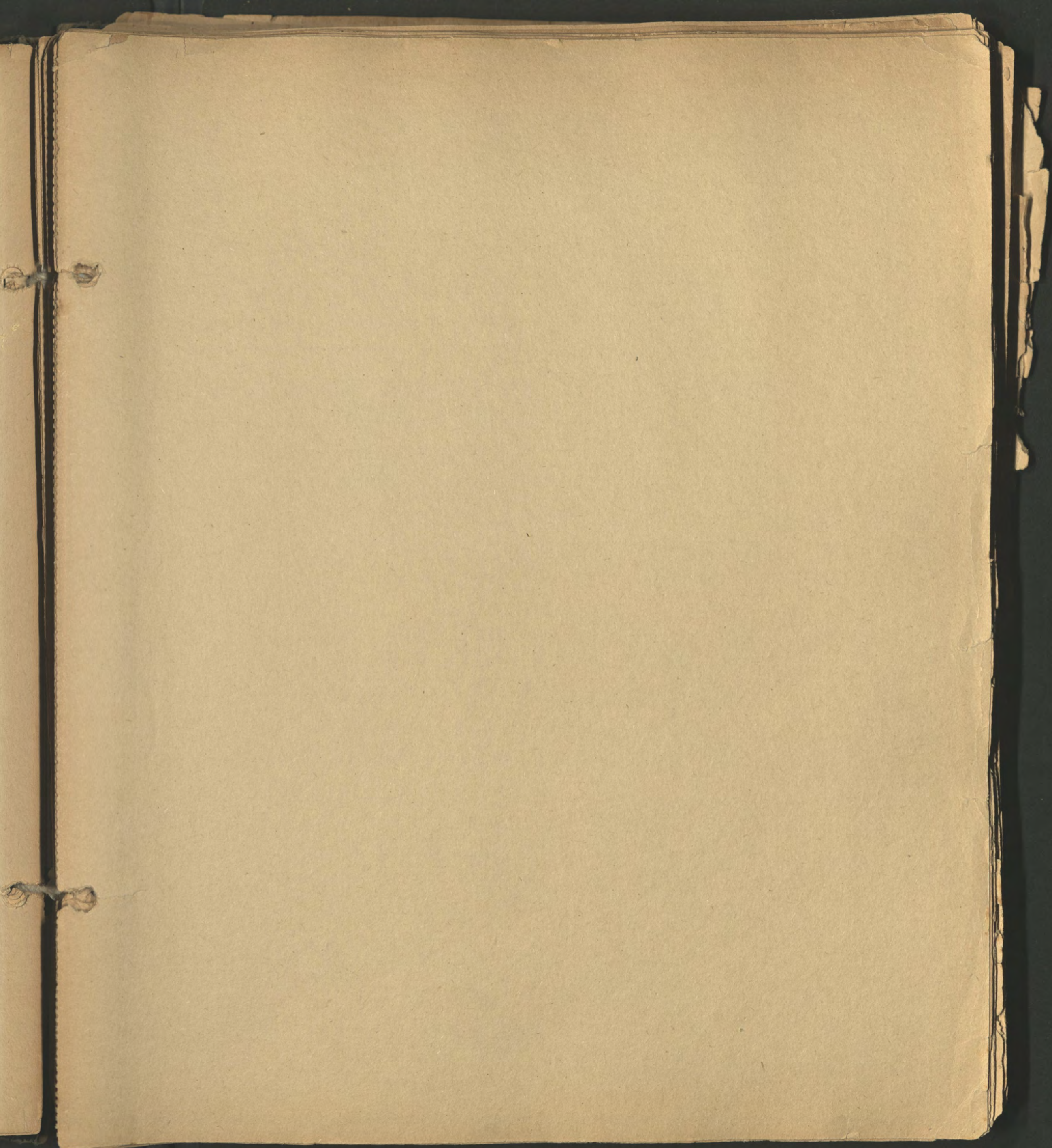
"Gee! I feel spooks around," said Bill.

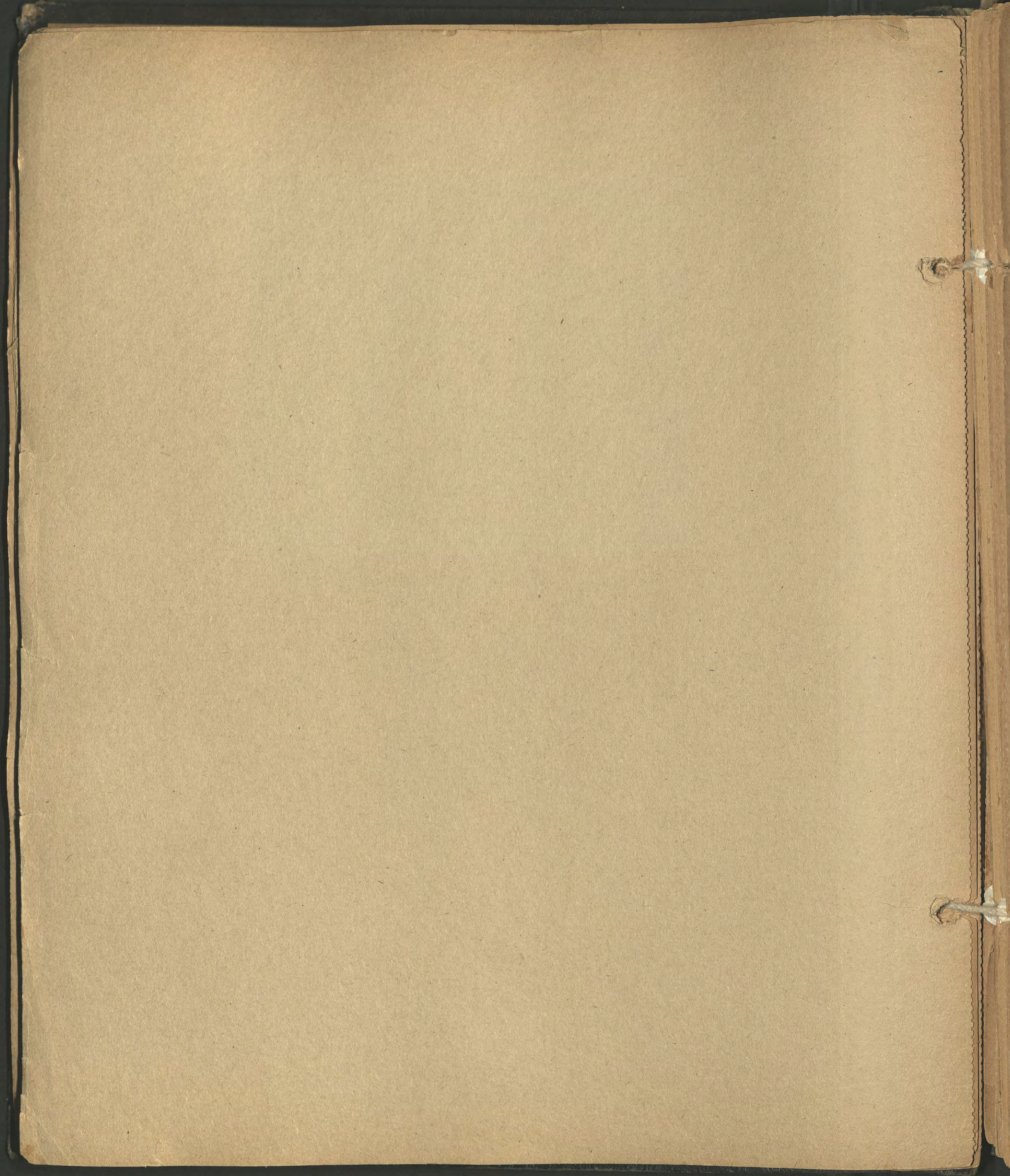
Presently they came to the site of Miriam's mansion—an oblong of weathered granite, nearly covered with moss and grassy creepers. The boys peered over. A good sized

thorn tree, armed with spurs, and a mass of tangled horse-brier had taken large possession. In one end was a mound of something, and in it what looked like an ancient door, just ajar. "Whew!" whispered Tom, and the adventurers moved closer together.

The air of something intangible, something darkly mysterious seemed to hang over the place. To make matters worse, a cloud bank, which had been crouching near the horizon,

Continued on Fourth Page.





Quidnet



A COUPLE OF WHALE RIBS MARK QUIDNET'S GATE-WAY.

These jaw bones came
originally from the
Boden Farm on Peconic
by stood at each side of
the entrance to same
J. G. Gillette
1949

To Fishing Parties!

THE undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he is prepared to entertain Fishing Parties with Chowders, and provide boats, tackle and boats in abundance. The fishing in Sesachacha Pond is unsurpassed, and all who are fond of the sport may depend upon a good time, if they give us a call. Clams furnished for parties at one day's notice.

Parties who wish to go Sharking, can be furnished with boats, lines, hooks and bait for the purpose. Careful attention paid to visitors, and charges moderate.

GEORGE A. CHADWICK,
Sesachacha Pond, Quidnet.

July 20-31

July 20, 1872

Fishing is fine at Sesachacha!

Perch are plentiful in the pond and bite freely. I make all arrangements for fishing parties, furnishing boat, lines, bait—everything but the fish, and they are waiting for you.

Parties contemplating an outing will find everything ready for them, if they will 'phone me in advance. Sesachacha Pond offers great sport—fishing was never better there than it is this year.

Automobiles make a quick and comfortable run out from town or over from 'Sconset.

Come out to Quidnet and enjoy a fishing trip on Sesachacha Pond, where the fish always bite.

WILLIAM H. NORCROSS,
Phone 109-11. Quidnet.

1918

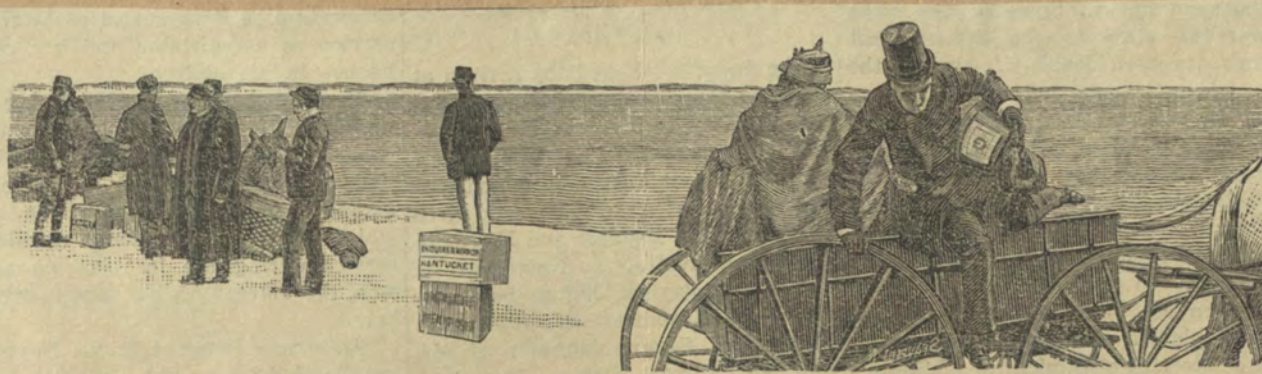
Real Estate on the Shore of Sesachacha Pond—the Coming Resort.

A T public auction, in front of salesroom, on Monday, August 30th, 1897, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, by virtue of a license from the Probate Court, granted August 12th, 1897, will be sold the following described real estate, to wit: The tract of land in Quidnet, known as the James H. Norcross place, containing about three acres, bounded as follows: West and North by Share No. 5 in the division of Squam; East by Share No. 7 of said division; and south by a highway separating said tract from Sesachacha Pond, as recorded in Nantucket County deeds, Book 68, folios 184-185; together with an undivided $\frac{1}{12}$ of said share No. 5 adjoining the same, and recorded in Book 61, pages 481-482.

ARTHUR A. NORCROSS, Adm.

ag14-3t

Aug. 21, 1897



Scene on Quidnet Beach, January 22, 1893, when the late Standish Wilcox, then a reporter for the Boston Globe, was about to take his departure with his stove-pipe hat.

Sachacha Pond in the Legislature.

The following bill, introduced by Representative Gardner in accordance with the vote of the town of Nantucket at its last annual meeting, was before the Committee on Fisheries and Game at the State House, on Tuesday of last week:

An Act to restrict fishing in Sesachacha Pond in Nantucket.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. No person shall set, draw or use any seine or net for taking fish in Sesachacha pond on the island of Nantucket.

Section 3. Any person violating this act shall, on conviction, pay a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars, with forfeiture of boats, nets and apparatus thus used, to be recovered before any court of competent jurisdiction for the use of the town of Nantucket.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Mr. Gardner stated that there was excellent white perch fishing in this pond, which was one of the attractions of the island for summer guests as well as for the native population who desired hook and line fishing. Without restrictions people use sweep seines in the pond and capture hundreds of barrels of these fish, which greatly impairs if not absolutely destroys the hook and line fishing. He further stated that there was some question as to whether this pond is one of the great ponds of the commonwealth over which the State holds jurisdiction, or whether it is excluded.

Mr. George H. Mackay stated that in his opinion the pond did not belong to the State, and while he was not there as a remonstrant against protecting the fish from being seined, he believed that the proprietors of the island of Nantucket had entire control of the pond, subject to such riparian rights as the owners of abutting lands may have acquired therein. He gave a comprehensive statement of the history of the rights which the proprietors of Nantucket acquired by purchase from the English crown, and also of the Indian purchases, down to the colonial act of 1693, which gave to the people of Nantucket all the rights acquired under the previous purchases, and that the ponds were especially named in the several grants referred to in this colonial act. And furthermore that the proprietors had continuously exercised ownership over all the ponds of the island, as the act of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1841, allowing the town in its corporate capacity to accept ownership of a grant of Long pond from the proprietors.

The statements and arguments of Mr. Mackay appeared to have a convincing force upon the committee, which made a report to the House asking to be relieved from the further consideration of the bill, and that it be referred to the committee on the judiciary.

The bill by request of Representative Gardner was allowed to come before the judiciary committee on Tuesday of this week, Mr. George H. Mackay and Allen Coffin, Esq., being present.

Mr. Gardner made a similar statement to that made before the fish and game committee.

Mr. Mackay laid a written statement of the history of the ponds of Nantucket before the committee for their subsequent consideration, which was of the same import presented to the other committee.

Allen Coffin, Esq., said he had read Mr. Mackay's written statement and believed it historically accurate and its conclusions logically deduced, although the legal points had never been adjudicated. If the facts were to go to the Attorney-General for a legal construction, as intimated by the chairman of the committee, he would submit a list of citations of the numerous acts passed by the Legislature in reference to the great ponds of Massachusetts in general, and of the acts concerning the ponds of Nantucket in particular.

The hearing was then closed, with the understanding that the committee would submit the facts involved to the Attorney-General for an opinion as to whether the State had such control of the great ponds at Nantucket as would enable the Legislature to enact the bill before them.

Old Fashioned Perch Fishing.

Seining large ponds of the island has been the cause of a large decrease in perch-fishing parties, as for several years sportsmen have been unable to secure these fish with rod and line and have abandoned the sport—a sport delightful to a great many people, who do not care for the more exciting boat fishing for bluefish in the rips. It will be good news to these people to learn that Sesachacha pond is full of perch, and several parties have caught large numbers. Residents at Sconset have become acquainted with the fact, and scarcely a day passes but one or more parties are at the big pond. On Monday Mr. Sidney Starbuck, Mrs. Franz Hartmann, Misses Starbuck, Dodd and Sharp landed 185, and others have caught as many as 60 or 80. Mr. Edward P. Norcross, who resides at Quidnet, has a boat on the pond for rental, which is eagerly sought, and he is prepared to supply more. It is his intention to prepare fully for fishing parties another season, and give it strict personal attention. Sesachacha is a handsome sheet of water, and is a favorite fishing resort, and hereafter the Quidnet section will be a popular rendezvous.

POND FISHING.

CAPT. JOHN WILLIAMS has put a number of boats on the waters of Sesachacha pond, including sailboats, and is prepared to let the same and furnish parties with paraphernalia for fishing upon this most delightful sheet of water, which is the best fresh water fishing Nantucket affords. jy6-2m

For The Inquirer and Mirror.

Protect the Pond.

Mr. Editor:

Wednesday of last week, with a party of friends, I went to "Quidnet" for a pond fishing cruise on Sachacha pond. We took a boat accompanied by Mr. E. P. Norcross' son Oscar, (who by the way knows where the fish live,) and at a short distance from shore dropped anchors and began to fish. In about two hours we had caught 114 of the handsomest perch I ever saw, all good size and suitable to fry. We then came ashore, took our team and drove to Wauwinet where at the Wauwinet House, we had a fine dinner. We then returned to Quidnet, where we again resumed our sport, and in about an hour caught 61 more making 175 perch and 5 large eels.

Now, Mr. Editor, why cannot that pond, at least, be reserved for our summer visitors, as well as ourselves, to enjoy this fine sport and to make one more attractive spot for a day's cruise? Why should there not be a shore dinner house at Quidnet as at Wauwinet? Look at the attractions that this location offers: surf bathing of the finest, sailing and rowing in this beautiful lake, and in addition, the fishing, which can easily be made the best in the State. Keep the seines out of this pond, and we shall have such fishing as will add to the attractions of Siasconset, Wauwinet and all along the east shore, and help to build up that section. Our stable keepers and all who have teams to let, are certainly interested to preserve this excellent pond fishing. Is there not some way in which this pond, at least, may be protected and the fishing improved?

If our visitors want a pleasant cruise and fine sport, let them try a fishing cruise to Quidnet.

Yours truly,

A. T. MOWRY.

Aug. 3, 1895

Sachacha pond being now an object of interest, it may be interesting to know something of its dimensions, which have recently been stated at 1000 acres and from that number down to 790. From a book of surveys made by Benjamin Bunker, who died in 1842, at the age of ninety-one years, it appears that the Sachacha pond then measured 310 acres and 56 rods. The Hummock pond, 319 acres and 43 rods. The Long pond 216 acres and 151 rods. These three being the only ponds measuring over 50 acres. Of the other ponds which measured over 20 acres the Capaum contained 23 acres, 24 rods; Gibbs's pond, 31 acres, 93 rods; Miacomet, 45 acres 128 rods. Doubtless present measurements would show some variations from the above.

April 1, 1896

Aug. 3, 1895

July 23, 1889

Quidnet Notes

Quidnet.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

It was sixty years ago and more that the skipper of a British steamship, bewildered by continued fogs and baffling currents, found himself hemmed in by threatening shoals off the New England coast and, dropping anchor, signalled for assistance. "What place is this?" he demanded as a boat's crew from shore came within hail. "Quidnet!" was shouted back. "Quidnet!" repeated the skipper doubtfully, "there's no such place on Her Majesty's charts!" Nearly thirty years ago The Inquirer and Mirror, commenting on the incident, ventured the prediction that with the development of seaside resorts along the New England coast, Quidnet would emerge from its obscurity to a front rank among the popular summer resorts of Massachusetts.

At that time it consisted of half a dozen houses occupied by fishermen, who farmed it between season to eke out the balance of a livelihood which the sea in part provided. Today, standing on my piazza in Quidnet, I count over a dozen commodious well-appointed houses, peopled annually by a summer colony, within the radius of a quarter mile, and in addition, within the circle, a cluster of half as many smaller one or two room dwellings near the beach. Add to these the "Quidnet Inn," the Massachusetts Humane Society's house and the numerous other structures, large and small, and it swells the number of buildings which make up the village of Quidnet to nearly half a hundred. Where else upon the island, other than town and Siasconset, can so large a number be found embraced in a corresponding area? And this brings me to the text which inspired this article.

Within the past week I have been shown the 1911 advertising booklet issued by the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. Co., and find that it differs from the 1910 edition only in the correction of one or two typographical errors and a few minor details, both editions comprising an article from the pen of that well-known and versatile writer R. K. Munkittrick, interspersed with pertinent illustrations, the purpose of which is to boom the island in general and localities in particular. For this purpose the town in its wisdom appropriated \$500 in 1910 and individuals contributed an equal amount. Of this \$1,000 Quidnet contributed its share by assessment and otherwise, but singularly enough its name does not appear in either edition. While all other sections are treated generously and due prominence given individually to the other nine villages, including Surfside, Quaise and Coatue, Quidnet is so wholly ignored that it is not even designated on the otherwise excellent map of the island.



WILLIAM H. H. SMITH AND HIS MAIL TEAM.

Photo taken when Revenue Cutter Mackinac landed the mails at Quidnet during the freeze-up of 1912.

Of course there could have been no ground originally for such glaring discrimination against any section, so we will charitably conclude it was accidental. But the omission was made and seems destined to be perpetuated.* Therefore for the purpose of reaching some of your off-island readers, Mr. Editor, whose general information regarding Nantucket may be limited to that contained in the New York and New Haven booklets, permit me to supplement the same with a few omitted facts regarding Quidnet.

There are those who think Quidnet one of the most delightful sections of the island, and not without reason, for it possesses nearly all the natural attractions to be found elsewhere and many that are not. Located on the extreme eastern headland, midway between Siasconset and Wauwinet, the broad Atlantic which rolls upon its shelving beach stretches away due east in unobstructed course to lave the shores of Portugal, and naturally its ocean bathing is unsurpassed. Separated from the ocean by a narrow strip of land and spread out in broad expanse to the southward and at the foot of the village is Lake Sesachacha, three miles in circumference and nearly circular in form, whose sparkling waters abound with shiny perch and afford unsurpassed fresh water fishing, boating and bathing. Beyond the lake, to the southward, looms up Sankaty lighthouse, whose nightly rays shed silvery paths across its rippling surface.

On the banks of this lake in Quidnet, the last of the Nantucket Indians pitched their wigwams, the sites of which are readily located by the circular foundations and nearby crumbled remains of shellfish on which they largely subsisted. Here and there may be seen the hollowed surface of a boulder in which the red man pounded his corn to meal, while scattered on every hand are the stone arrow heads and spear heads with which he brought down game and possibly "waged war against his brother." Fashioned centuries ago with the rudest of implements these relics of a by-gone age and vanished race lie just below the surface, over-grown and hidden by vegetation,

"But often when one's ploughing
The ploughshare turns them out."

An interesting relic of whaling days stands at the entrance of W. H. Norcross' estate on Lakeside avenue. It is the jaw bones of a humpback whale captured on the shoals in the early sixties and towed into Nantucket and tried out. They are sunk in the ground seven feet and tower eleven feet above, curving inward and forming a broken arch, through which the driveway enters. They are a conspicuous object for miles around.

On the ocean side Great Round Shoal lightship, in full view a few miles offshore, marks the turning point of deep draught vessels along the coastwise highway around Cape Cod, while the smaller fishing craft ply their vocation among the shoals which stretch away as far as eye can reach. Inland hills and dales, undulating moors and swamp lands with their wealth of flora and berries in their season, spread out for miles, while from a neighboring elevation the far-off town looms up across the harbor like "a city set upon a hill."

In the historic naval engagement fought off Nantucket in 1814 the wounded British prisoners were landed at Sesachacha, just south of here, and transported to town in carts, while the prize ship Douglass, for whose possession the fight was waged, was beached at Squam, about a mile to the northward and totally wrecked.

There is a time in the course of human events when Quidnet, though omitted from its map, is brought to the attention of the world by the New York and New Haven. In winter, when impenetrable ice fields blockade the harbor for many days and no landing can be effected elsewhere, all eyes turn to Quidnet as the steamer ploughs her way outside Great Point and the metropolitan press, in scare headlines next day, announces to an anxious world that relief has reached the "suffering islanders," via Quidnet.

As a retreat from the heat and turmoil of the city, where business cares and the conventionalities of society may be temporarily laid aside and rural life enjoyed in all its restful simplicity, where children may safely roam with freedom on the moors or delve in the sandy beach—in short, where young and old may revel in healthful and invigorating touch with nature—Quidnet is an ideal spot. Its summer colony is increasing in numbers year by year and its possibilities for future development are unlimited.

Arthur H. Gardner.

Quidnet, July 12, 1911.

* The writer is pleased to learn that J. H. Robinson, in his admirable booklet just issued, has given proper recognition to Quidnet.

JULY 15, 1911

Theodore Friebus, the Actor, Drops Dead.

From the Boston Globe

Theodore Friebus, a Boston actor, died from heart failure Wednesday evening in a New York theatre. He was stricken when standing in the wings in the second act of "A Tailor-Made Man," waiting for his cue to go on the stage.

The performance was stopped and a doctor was called from the audience, but Friebus died almost immediately. After a short break the performance continued with an understudy. Friebus played the role of Prof. Gustavus Sonntag, a philosopher, whose book on "The Will to Win" spurs the hero, played by Grant Mitchell, to rise from tailor's helper to millionaire.

Theodore Friebus will be remembered by thousands of Boston playgoers as one of the most finished actors of the scores who have been associated with the various companies appearing at the Castle Square Theatre.

During his stay at the Castle Square Theatre he was called upon to write a musical comedy, "1915," which ran for many weeks. He was responsible for the entire production—words, music and lyrics.

He came by his musical talent not only through natural inclination, but by study. When a boy he received one three-quarters of an hour lesson from Richard Wagner in Bayreuth. But music was not to claim him, for the stage had a stronger hold. For 17 years he played a wide range of parts.

[Theodore Friebus married Miss Beatrice Flagg of Nantucket and they have made their summer home at Quidnet. Besides his widow, Mr. Friebus leaves one child.—Ed.]

A Plucky Feat.

Officer Kelly, the newly-appointed day police, had an opportunity to prove his mettle, Thursday afternoon, when he stopped the mad career of a young mustang belonging to Dr. Thompson of Quidnet. The horse had recently been broken to harness, and was hitched to a light democrat wagon. The Doctor had stopped at Ellis' harness shop to have some minor repairs made to the bridle, leaving the horse tied by a rope to a post in front.

The mustang suddenly bolted and Dr. Thompson endeavored to check him, but the steed snapped the post off and broke from his grasp. Officer Kelly saw the Doctor's efforts to hold the fiery animal and rushed to the scene just in time to jump for its head as it dashed across the square.

It was a plucky feat and the eye-witnesses are loud in praise of the young officer's courage, for he was dragged around the block and tossed about viciously, but he managed to hold his grasp on the mustang's nose, and finally brought him to a halt by the train-shed in back of Progress hall. The wagon was badly damaged in the fray, but Officer Kelly escaped with only a few scratches, and by the time the crowd gathered on the scene, he was modestly strolling up the street as though nothing had happened. It was well and bravely done.

QUIDNET.

To Captain Norcross, with the
Author's compliments.

The Sea.

Oh, for the sea at Quidnet,
Where the waves ride high and strong;
Oh, for the sun-kissed sandy beach
And the sound of the zephyr's song!
Oh, for a dip in the ocean,
The tang of a salt water chill;
For we're curling up
Like the tail of a pup,
And steam on a hot dunghill.

The Lake.

Oh, for the lake at Quidnet,
Where the tall weeds grow apace,
And the wind blows east
And the wind blows west
And fans your browning face:
Oh, for a line and a sand flea
And the captain's grey-lined boat:
For we're sizzling hot
Like fat in the pot,
And the heat has got my goat.

The Fog.

Oh, for the fog at Quidnet!
Let her come thick as night,
Wouldn't care a straw
If I never, never saw
Old Sankaty and her light.
Let the clouds reek dampest moisture,
Let the rain turn to a river,
For we're boiling slow
From head to toe,
My lights! My lungs! My liver!

The Rest.

Oh, for the rest at Quidnet,
The invigorating air,
Where mosquitoes bite
Both day and night,
And the spiders have their lair,
Let the clamshells burst amidships—
All little necks staked to claim.
The gol-darn fish
Be nowhere you wish,
And Uncle Bill to blame.

The Heat.

Let the old town brew and sizzle,
Let her rain and stew and fog,
Let all Quidnetis
Have laryngitis,
And the cows milk on the hog:
Let all the lot of miseries
Be piled at your cottage door;
The worst of heaven
Would be like heaven
Compared to this gosh-dinged shore.

L'envoi

So carry me back to Quidnet
Where the scrub pines line the road,
And Burgesses lambs
Give Jerry jim-jams,
And no autos dare unload.
Give me the boat and a flea-line
And a kite with a mile of string,
And I'd feel like a son
Of a son-of-a-gun
With the soul of a pirate king.

—Theodore Friebus.

The above was penned after leaving Nantucket and meeting with the recent heated spell on the continent.

Drove Across Sesachacha Pond.

Yesterday Fred Heighton performed a feat that has not been witnessed on Nantucket for many years. He hitched his horse to a truck wagon, drove him across Sesachacha pond, threw on a large load of kelp, and then returned across the ice the same way he came. And he made several trips across, too, the horse and wagon carrying a heavy load each time.



A group of Quidnet fishermen of forty years ago. Note Bill Henry sitting on the dory, wearing his famous red flannel shirt and white "gallusses."

A Busy Line.

Without question the 109 line, running to Polpis and Quidnet, is the busiest line in the Nantucket telephone system. If you doubt it, call up someone on that line and see if you don't get a reply from "central" nine times out of ten that the "line's busy".

Within a week we have made twenty-seven attempts to get in communication with a party in Polpis, and twenty-six times we have been told "line's busy". The twenty-seventh time was yesterday (Friday) morning, and then the reply was varied to "they don't answer", which at least broke the monotony.

Someone has kindly suggested that it is easier and quicker, whenever you want to talk with anybody on the 109 line, to either walk out or else hire a team and take a drive. It may be so.

And then someone else has voiced the opinion that the "line's busy" reply may be because the Polpis and Quidnet folks do a lot of "neighboring" over the telephone. It may be so.

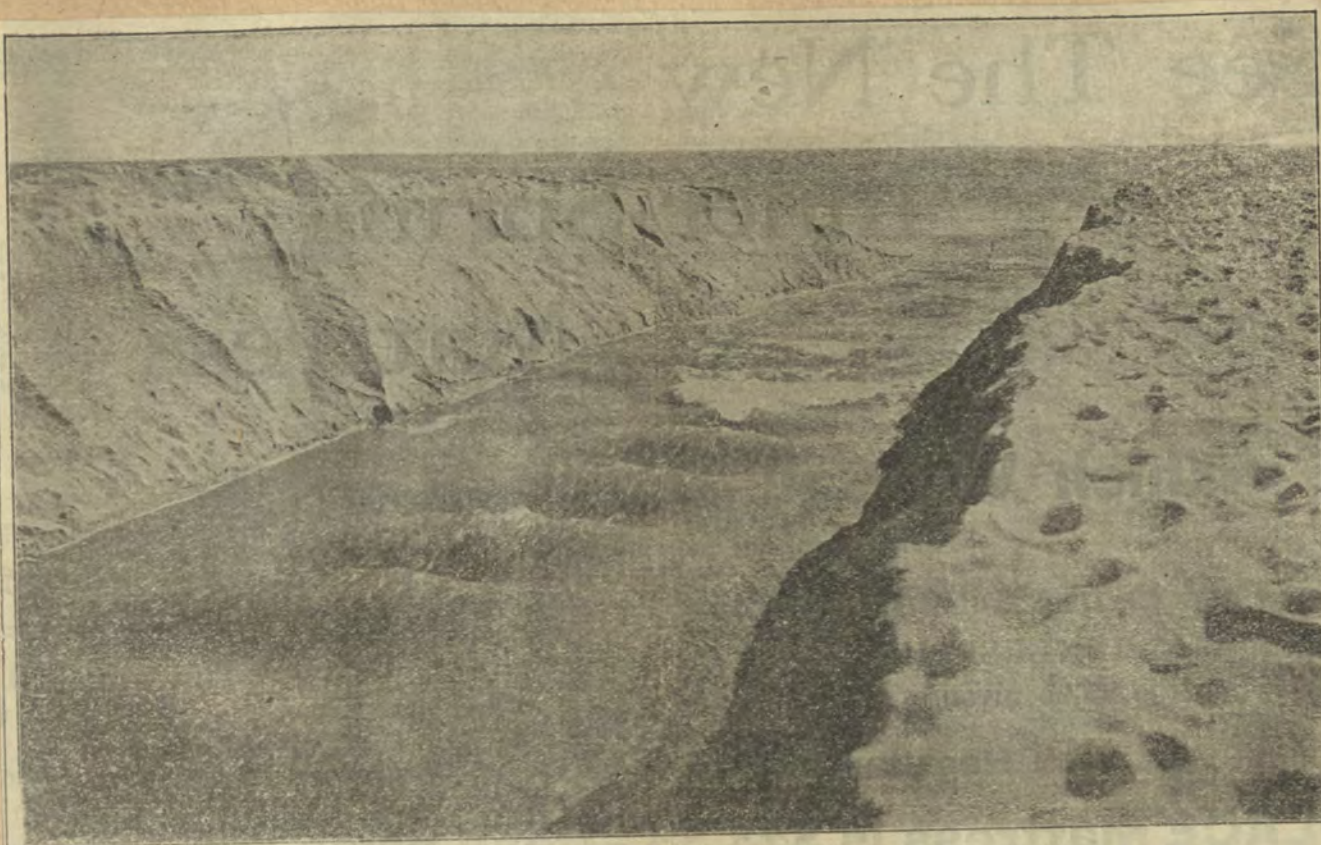
Anyhow and anyway, twenty-seven attempts to avail ourselves of the service over the 109 line is enough for us.

Back From Nantucket.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Ela of Faxon avenue, who have been enjoying a week's outing at Nantucket, returned home Sunday evening, and have brought a good fish story with them. Saturday afternoon they drove over to Sesachacha pond with a couple of friends and made a record catch of white perch, in one and a half hours landing over two hundred handsome specimens.

Mr. and Mrs. Ela proved themselves expert anglers and beat their Nantucket friends by a large majority. Sesachacha pond is the largest body of fresh water on Nantucket island, being over one mile long and three-quarters of a mile wide. It is renowned for its famous perch fishing, and although many large catches have been reported this season, that made by Mr. and Mrs. Ela on Saturday was the largest made in such a short time. —Quincy Ledger, 6th.

Sesachacha Pond Opened to Sea This Week.



WHEN THE POND FLOWS OUT TO SEA. THE "RIPPLES" INDICATE THAT THE SAND IS CUTTING AWAY WELL.

The people of Nantucket had a very enjoyable week-end. The weather conditions were ideal, with bright blue sky, balmy air and warm sunshine. And to add to all this, Sesachacha pond was opened to the sea, affording an objective point for many a pleasure trip on Sunday and Monday, with opportunity the first day to see the operations attending the digging of the trench through the stretch of beach separating the pond from the ocean, and on Monday to see the immense body of water rushing out through the opening from the pond to the sea.

It was a very interesting sight indeed, for Sesachacha was full—more so than it has been for a number of years, and once the pond started "running" it ate its way through the beach and in about twelve hours the water was rushing out with tremendous force, cutting the trench wider and wider as the hours passed, until by Monday night it was fully 100 feet wide.

Those who saw the "opening" to the best advantage were the ones who drove down onto Sesachacha neck instead of to Quidnet, as the road leading from the main 'Seonset highway was in excellent condition, it being possible to drive within fifty feet of the edge of the cut. And all day Sunday the men at work on the trench had an interested audience assembled to watch the proceedings, while on Monday there was a steady stream of cars going to and fro along the Sesachacha road, some people even driving out after dark and watching the water rushing out, by the aid of flash-lights.

Tuesday morning quite a number of herring were running, attracted by the fresh water running out into the ocean, as is their habit during the spawning season, but the run of herring was not nearly as heavy as usually occurs at the west end of the island when Hummock Pond is opened.

The opening of the ponds at this time is being done under the Mosquito Control Commission, so as to drain the marshes and low spots which have been filled by the heavy rains during the winter and early spring. The work at Sesachacha was very successful in every way and the pond ran down well, so that by Wednesday the salt water was flowing in from the ocean when the tide rose.

This action of the salt water improves the condition in the ponds, which are apt to become stagnant in a few years, with no outlet. There is always an accumulation of growth and slime around the shores which the opening of the ponds improves, through the lowering of the water and the exposure of the shores to sun and air, and also through the flow of the water from the ocean into the pond.

There has been some discussion of when Sesachacha pond was last opened to the sea. In the spring of 1920 all three ponds—Sesachacha, Hummock and Miacomet—were opened. That was the last time a cut was made through Sesachacha beach, but the other two ponds have been opened almost every year since.

Thirty-five years ago Sesachacha was opened in June and the pond remained open for several weeks, with the ocean running in and the pond running out with every rise and fall of the tide. Bluefish were then plentiful around Nantucket island and a school of the fish made their way into the pond and some of the fishermen caught a fine haul of "blues" there—something that has not occurred since.

How is the pond opened, you ask? Well, early in the morning on the appointed day (usually Sunday is selected) a gang of men drive out to the beach which separates the pond

from the ocean, and, selecting a section where the beach seems to be lower and narrow, the work starts.

Pairs of horses attached to big sand scoops are put to work, dragging the sand out scoop by scoop; and men start work with shovels. Steadily the work progresses and the trench is dug down deep enough to be far below the level of the pond, but it is not dug close to the pond for hours.

A stretch of sand is left undisturbed until the men feel sure that the trench leading through the beach to the ocean is deep enough to ensure a good flow of water. Then men start work with their shovels, and work quickly, too, with everybody ready to break down the final barrier which is holding the waters of the pond back.

First a small stream trickles through; then the men ply their shovels quickly and work hard and furious for a few minutes, standing in the water with long-legged boots on and digging away the sand at the narrow bar between the pond and the deep trench which is waiting.

In very few moments the water starts rushing down into the trench and makes its way down to the ocean. That is the time when the shovels work rapidly and when the sand is thrown up onto the banks on either side of the trench in the effort to encourage the flow of water as much as possible and remove every lump of sand that seems to be in the way.

Steadily the flow of water increases, both in depth and width, and if everything works as planned and the trench has been dug low enough, that is all there is to the job—the pond will take care of itself.

Anxiously the men watch for the first "ripple", which is considered a sure sign that the pond is to run out all right. The "ripple" actually looks

as though it were the water flowing into the pond, but it is the sand cutting away underneath—a process that always results when a pond is opened and is running out properly. The ripples gradually increase in size and number, until they extend all the way from the sea to the pond—seemingly working back against the force of nature.

It is the rush of water and the "ripples" that cause the ditch to increase steadily in width. Foot by foot the sand falls away on either side and drops down into the out-rushing water, to be swept in the strong current out onto the sand-bar that always results on the ocean side of the opening. The hours pass and the trench grows wider and the rush of water more intense, as the immense volume that has been held back is freed and allowed to run down into the ocean through a drop of eight or ten feet.

This year Sesachacha pond was very full indeed. The largest pond on the island, it contained millions of gallons of water that had to be released before the pond could be brought down to sea level. Those who saw the body of water rushing out through the cut Monday afternoon, when the pond was "running" its best, witnessed a sight they will long remember, as the opening was then about 100 feet wide and the water was pouring down into the ocean, like the rapids above Niagara Falls.

For a time it was not wise to stand too near the edge of the trench, as the sand was liable to cave in almost anywhere as the water swept down into the ocean, with the tremendous pressure of the pond behind it. Along towards 9.00 o'clock in the evening, however, more than twenty-four hours after it started running, it was noticed that the flow of water was slackening a trifle, indicating that the rush of water from the pond to the ocean had started to subside.

The flow then decreased hour by hour until on Tuesday the pond had practically stopped flowing and when the tide came in Sesachacha pond received its first taste of salt water in eleven years.

Usually the cut remains open a few weeks, when the action of nature gradually closes the opening up and before long there is once more a stretch of sand between the pond and the ocean. There have been times in the past when a pond has remained open six months; at other times it has been closed up within a week after it "ran down." It all depends upon the conditions which follow the "letting out of the pond."

But the pond always closes up again, and it is this fact that makes the government look aghast at the proposition to make a harbor of refuge out of Sesachacha pond by opening it into the ocean. It is not the opening of the pond that presents a problem—it is in keeping it open. And those who have made a study of the situation claim that it would be impossible to construct breakwaters off the east end of the island that would ensure an opening being maintained between the ocean and the pond so as to convert Sesachacha into a harbor of refuge. Whether this is a fact no one knows, but it is certain that neither the state or federal government seems inclined to look with favor upon the proposition.

However, that the pond can be opened to the sea and a cut made through the beach with comparatively little effort, the Nantucketers themselves have demonstrated.

Sesachacha Pond Ran Out Unusually Well.

Sesachacha Pond, which was opened to the sea under supervision of the Mosquito Control Commission on Friday week, ran out unusually well, showing that the conditions were just right and the work done in a manner that did not give any opportunity for the opening to close up again, as sometimes happens shortly after the opening has been made.

The force of men kept at work all day, after the teams of horses had completed the scooping, and until late afternoon they were still wielding their shovels and making every effort to encourage the "rippling" which indicates that the sand is cutting away satisfactorily.

Many cars drove out to Sesachacha Neck and watched the interesting sight, the conditions being unusually attractive and unusual. To people from the middle west and distant parts of the country it was a fascinating sight, and at one time there were cars parked there bearing Kansas, Arizona, Illinois, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts plates.

By Saturday morning the pond had practically "run down"—that is, such a tremendous volume had been rushing out through the opening all night long that the pond had reached sea level, and when the tide rose that day the ocean was lapping the waters of the pond through the opening.

June 4, 1932

Petition For Road From Quidnet to Squam.

The County Commissioners have received a petition to lay out the road leading from Quidnet to Squam Head, which is at present impassable to vehicles on account of bad slough-holes. Otherwise the road affords a very pleasant drive along the east end of the island and is the means of easy connections between Quidnet and Squam and Wauwinet.

The petitioners want the road laid out as a county highway and the bad sections repaired, so as to make the easternmost headland of the island accessible to both carriages and automobiles.

The County Commissioners will hold a view and hearing in response to the petition and have set day and hour at which the hearing will be held. Those interested should make plans to be present at that time and advance their views either for or against the plan proposed.

Oct. 10, 1931

On Wednesday of last week, 18th instant, there was a quiet celebration of a birthday anniversary in Quidnet, which only a few intimates were cognizant of. Mrs. Elizabeth H. Gardner, widow of Francis Gardner, on that day reached the advanced age of 95 years. Mrs. Gardner is infirm as to eyesight and hearing, but retains her mental faculties perfectly, and was delighted with the little gifts and notes of congratulation that came to her from her friends.

Oct. 26, 1905

Death of William H. Norcross.

William H. Norcross, the well-known resident of Quidnet, died at the Nantucket Hospital on Monday last, after a brief illness. In his passing Quidnet loses its leading citizen and the loss will be keenly felt by all who knew Mr. Norcross and enjoyed him. Among the summer visitors in particular the deceased was looked upon as a feature of the little hamlet on the shore of Sesachacha pond. For many years he "took out fishing parties" in his big whale-boat, and his genial presence and cordial manner made him popular with all.

Mr. Norcross had watched Quidnet grow from a small collection of fish-houses to an attractive summer colony, which seemed to spring up in the passing years and centre around his own domicile. He was always optimistic regarding Quidnet's future and he delighted to hear the summer people regale its charms and distinctive attractions as they found them.

The deceased was for a number of years active in town affairs and served seven years on the Board of Selectmen. At one time he assumed charge of the construction of a section of the state highway. Other than that his activities have all been in connection with the hamlet of Quidnet.

Mr. Norcross is survived by his widow and by several brothers.

Funeral services were held in the Congregational church, Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. C. A. Ratcliffe officiating. The entire east end of the island was represented, including all of the residents of Quidnet, Wauwinet and Polpis, who came to town to pay their respects to the memory of one who was always a good neighbor and friend.

Deceased was a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity and committal was under the rites of the order.

Death of David Hagedorn.

David Oakley Hagedorn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hagedorn, of Santa Barbara, Cal., and Nantucket, died recently in Los Angeles, Cal., after a major cardiac operation. He was in his 28th year.

He attended Harvard and the University of California in Los Angeles. Considered an exceptionally brilliant mechanical engineer, he owned and operated the Hagedorn Engineering Company in Los Angeles.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his widow, Mrs. Rita Peck Hagedorn, and a 5-months-old daughter, Susan Marie, and two sisters.

The Hagedorns spent many summers at Quidnet, where the deceased was well known. Several months ago, the New York Post selected him as one of the five outstanding college-age men and women doing original work for their country during the war. He was the descendant of noted inventors, one of whom was Richard Hoe who completed the invention of the rotary press. Herman Hagedorn, father of the deceased, is a famous writer.

Florida Freibus as "Ingenué".

Acquaintances of Miss Florida Freibus, grand-daughter of Mrs. B. T. Judkins of Nantucket, who made so many friends last summer during her sojourn at Quidnet, will be interested in the following clipping from the Boston Traveller:

There are many Bostonians who recall, not without glow of interest, the long period several decades ago when the names of John Craig and Mary Young were ones to conjure with hereabout, and the old Castle Square Theatre was a resort of no inconsiderable glamour. For many years one of the most popular members of their company was Theodore Freibus, whose fluent character studies won him a niche of his own.

Now comes along another Freibus to win her way in popular esteem. This time it is Florida Freibus, the daughter of the esteemed Theodore, and giving an enchanting ingenue performance in Susan Glaspell's "Allison's House" which comes to the Wilbur next Monday. Miss Freibus was born nearby in Auburndale, and was graduated from Dana Hall, Wellesley. Then she went to New York for courses in the Theatre Guild school.

There was no keeping her from a stage career, nor did her father wish to. For Theodore Freibus had love of the theatre deeply in his blood, his mother having been a prominent actress in the companies of Augustin Daly and Ada Rehan.

After school was over, Miss Freibus found a small part in "Triple Crossed", and another brief vignette in "The Spider". Mounting the ladder she next followed Helen Chandler in "The Ivory Door", playing opposite Henry Hull. Came seasoning and experience then, during a summer with the Berkshire playhouse, following which Miss Eva Le Gallienne enrolled her in the Civic Repertory company.

Two seasons has Miss Freibus been with this organization, and under Miss Le Gallienne's tutelage has enacted an even dozen roles of varying importance, but to all of which Miss Freibus has brought a shimmering flair of distinction.

There was interlude this past summer at the Millbrook Theatre, and now Miss Freibus is touring with the Civic Repertory company in Miss Glaspell's "Allison's House". Her part is that of a young secretary, requiring a vibrancy and eagerness of touch which Miss Freibus supplies capably.

Which is the Largest Pond.

It is generally conceded that Sesachacha Pond is the largest on the island, now that Hummock Pond has been divided into the north and south heads by the growth of reeds and shrubbery. But how many islanders know which of three other ponds is the largest—Capaum, Miacomet or Gibbs pond?

Twenty-five dories floated from Quidnet, Tuesday, for the codfishing grounds. Several fishermen who have heretofore made 'Sconset their headquarters have gone over to the Quidnet ranks, and the place bids fair to resume its old-time prestige as the leading fishing point of the east end. The cause of the exodus is said to be on account of Pochick rip having made so far north on the 'Sconset shore as to render landing more difficult, Quidnet having a still further advantage in the fact of there being less tide to contend with.

There She Blows!

In whaling days, a long time gone, When sailors crowded canvas on, And sailed from old Nantucket bar Until they made the Southern Star, The high-seas hope of every tar Was "There she blows!" and "There she blows!" Those days are gone as went the whales—

These modern steamers spread no sails;

But hidden in Nantucket town, In a cottage parlor, dim and brown, I saw a painting—"Ship Hove Down" For "There she blows!" and "There she blows!"

The Captains hair was white as spray That blows to leeward down the bay; And first he smoked and looked aside, Then straightened in his fine, old pride.

"Your ship?"—He raised his pipe and cried,

"Yes; 'There she blows' " Yes—" "There she blows!"

C. R. Stapleton.
Quidnet, July, 1920.

Hagedorn Selected to Present "Ode" to Harvard.

Hermann Hagedorn, who has been spending the summer with his family at their cottage in Quidnet, was among the departures from the island Tuesday morning. Mr. Hagedorn was selected to present the tercentenary ode at the celebration at Harvard College this week. The Boston Transcript says of Mr. Hagedorn:

Although latter-day poets, with a few exceptions, generally are conceded to "have something lacking", Hermann Hagedorn, whose literary life was largely spent biographing Theodore Roosevelt, made himself known as a poet through his "Troop of the Guard" in 1909 and his "Fifes and Drums" anthology in 1917.

As a poet, Hagedorn is not prolific, in the sense that Kipling, Noyes and perhaps Service were prolific. Nor, as a poet, has Mr. Hagedorn reached the forceful heights of Kipling, the airy sentiment of Noyes in "The Barrel Organ", or the deep portrayal of hard times of Service. Mr. Hagedorn's is more "ars gratia artis" than realism.

In 1836, at the bicentenary celebration, a poem was presented which was immediately classified as a parody on "Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms." Over in Cambridge they called it "Fair Harvard".

Perhaps "Fair Harvard" was realistic for those days. But realistic or not, a century later, if a college man is asked, "What is this tune: 'da-da-da-da-da-da-da-da . . .'" he will say, whether he be from Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford or Louisiana State, "Oh, that's 'Fair Harvard'." Few will say, "That's 'Believe Me, If All Those Endearing Young Charms'."

The ode, realistic or fanciful, will be presented by Hermann Hagedorn. He is Harvard '07. He is Theodore Roosevelt's Boswell. And he is a poet—most say a good one.

Hermann Hagedorn was born in New York in 1882 of full German parentage. Following his graduation from Harvard in 1907 he went to the University of Berlin for a semester's study, and took a year of graduate study in 1908-09 at Columbia. In 1909 he became an instructor in English at Harvard and held that position until 1911.

He delivered his Phi Beta Kappa poem, "An Ode of Dedication," at Harvard in 1917, presented a poem on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Phi Beta Kappa's existence at Harvard, and wrote "Crisis," the poem for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the class of 1907.

Married in 1908, he lives in Indian Lane, in the northwest section of Washington, with his wife, Dorothy Oakley Hagedorn and his three children, Mary Oakley, Dorothea Hermann and David Oakley.

Oct. 29, 1898

Sept. 14, 1936



FRED PARKER AMID THE PEACE OF HIS HERMITAGE AT QUIDNET

The Romance of Fred Parker Hermit of Quidnet.

The "hermit of Quidnet" passed away nearly fifty-five years ago. Only a few people are living on Nantucket today who can recall Fred Parker and the little building where he lived alone summer and winter so many years. He was known to be eccentric, cared naught for companionship, yet was always courteous, although not exactly sociable at any time. That there was some hidden story in his life was well known, yet few people ever dared venture beneath the old man's stern exterior, even on one of the rare occasions when a twinkle slyly crept into his eyes as a visitor on seeing a penny on the floor would stoop to pick it up only to find that the hermit had it nailed there.

A short time ago a subscriber inquired whether there really was a romance lurking somewhere in the early life of Fred Parker that caused him to prefer a life alone in the little village of Quidnet, far from the town proper, where the quiet and peace that the man sought were broken only by the lapping of the ocean on the shore or the sound of the wild birds seeking the shelter of Sesachacha pond. It seems that there was more than a mere romance connected with the life of the Quidnet hermit. Fred Parker had a sweetheart who played him false; he afterwards had a wife with whom he was not congenial. His life was not without its sadness—fate did not deal kindly with him—so he sought the hermit's life, where he might do as he desired, apart from the rest of mankind—and womankind.

In the halcyon days of this old whaling town, Fred Parker was a tall, ambitious, rather gawky youth, who served customers from behind the counters of an island grocery. He had a very moderate salary for those flush times, but his slender earnings were snugly invested, in common with all others who made money, in ships which were chasing the whale. His ventures were suc-

cessful, and he labored diligently and scrimped and scraped, to gather enough to buy a sixteenth share in the ship *Franklin*, which Nantucketers were then fitting away for the oil fields of the ocean. The oil excitement was at its height. Money was pouring rapidly into the strong boxes of the rich, and business of all kinds was in a booming state. Everybody was on the lookout for fresh adventures.

Young Parker's share in the *Franklin* brought him good returns. Under Capt. Thaddeus Coffin she made a couple of good voyages and each time when she returned home Parker was able to buy another sixteenth. He was economical and denied himself many of the pleasures that other young fellows enjoyed. Folks said that he had an eye to the future and if everything broke well he would be a rich man.

Skilled with tools, he secured employment as a carpenter and during the evenings did cabinet work on his own account. The next voyage of the *Franklin* was a successful one. Capt. Joseph Chase had taken her out that time and brought in nearly 2,100 bbls. of sperm at a time when the market price was high.

Elated by the success of his venture, young Parker bought a couple of more shares in the ship and hoped she would repay him his investment with large interest. With others who were deeply interested in the *Franklin* he watched her sail out around Brant point one spring morning, unfold her snowy wings outside the bar, and head away by Great Point for distant seas. Then he went back to his work.

Time sped on. Meanwhile Fred Parker had met and loved blue-eyed Mollie Coffin, a laughing, rosy-cheeked lass from Edgartown, on the neighboring Vineyard, who had spent the summer with her cousin at Nantucket. They met at one of the features of the island, a "pound party," and she was escorted home

that night by the enamored fellow. Intimacy followed, and young Parker made her his confidant. He was madly in love. When she left the island for the Vineyard in the fall her hand was pledged to him. They were to be married when the ship came in. He would then be of age.

Through the long, cold winter that followed, the straggling New Bedford mail packet made only now and then a trip to the Nantucket shore. But each time it came and went it transferred letters and pledges of love between young Parker and his affianced. Her notes were tender and assuring, his responses ardent and truthful.

The *Franklin* was much overdue, he wrote the following spring, but she was a staunch vessel and in most skillful hands. A competency and happiness could not fail to be in store for them. Other months of waiting followed. Then there was a break in Mollie's letters. The young lover could not account for it. A two weeks' gale prevailed, and then the mail boat came, but he got no word from her. He wrote her upbraidingly.

After this there came another fortnight's storm, and the mail boat was not seen again for fifteen days. When she did arrive she brought a bulky delayed mail, and the late New York and Boston papers were eagerly sought for by the ship owners and business men. In one of them Fred Parker found a dispatch then over two months old. It read as follows:

Maccio, Brazil.—The Nantucket ship *Franklin* was abandoned 300 miles off this point in a gale. She was waterlogged with 700 barrels of oil loose in the hold. She will probably break up.

Vessel insurance was not popular in those days. There was not a cent on Fred Parker's interest in the *Franklin*, and it was with blanched face and reeling brain that he read the tidings which made him worse off than a poor man—a debtor without a cent in the world. People talked about his misfortune, but he did not say a word to anyone.

The next trip of the mail boat carried him to Edgartown, where he at once repaired to the home of his intended bride. He arrived just in season to see a shower of old shoes and rice thrown out of the front door upon a little party that was clustered about a carriage in the street. The carriage drove rapidly away toward the harbor as he went in. He inquired for Mary. Her thin-lipped, grey-eyed mother struck him down as with a thunderbolt, announcing that she had just been married.

Then, while he listened in a dazed sort of way, she told him coldly that the storm which had intercepted Nantucket's mails blew into Edgartown a Bangor ship bound to the East Indies. She halted for repairs, and her delay was lengthened while the captain wooed and won Mrs. Coffin's daughter. The ship had sailed from New York, but was driven out of her way by a gale.

The captain brought ashore late papers, one of which contained the account of the loss of the *Franklin*. By the advice of her mother, Mrs. Coffin coldly said, Mary at once consented to give up young Parker, and after a three-weeks' courtship she became the stranger captain's wife, and had sailed away with him in his bonnie ship that very day.

The same norther which bore the false-hearted Edgartown girl out past the painted clay cliffs of Gay Head drove a light fishing dory from the Vineyard over to Nantucket. In it was seated the now broken-hearted Parker. After he reached Nantucket he kept his troubles to himself, apparently not caring for the company of other young people.

An excellent workman, he found plenty of employment and one day, while seated with their lunch pails, he told a fellow worker about his love affair. They talked things over frequently after that and gradually his friend drew from Parker the whole story about his investment in the

Franklin and his love for the Vineyard girl who had turned him down.

One day a young woman came along—an attractive girl in every sense. She stopped to inquire about their work, queried whose house it was they were working on, and gradually drew young Parker into conversation. Occasionally they would meet when he was bound homeward after work and a friendship gradually developed.

Castally she asked him if he would not like to come to a husking party to be held the next Saturday. There would be a lot of fun, she said, and she felt sure Parker would have a good time. He agreed to go, and, whether by chance or design on the young lady's part, he found a red ear right when they were sitting there together.

Fred Parker was interested—he cast aside all lingering thoughts of the girl who had turned him down, and in a short time he was courting Sally. She lived in a house which stood on Lily street and Parker found in her what he thought he desired in a wife. He proposed, was accepted, and for a short time after the wedding they lived together.

But it seems that Sally had been brought up to be a lady—she was not interested in house-work or a family. After a short married life together, Parker's dreams were again shattered. They could not get along. She was a poor house-keeper and scorned washing and ironing, as well as cooking.

Sally finally went to live with her sister, Mrs. Peter Raymond, and, now thoroughly disgusted with women, Parker went to Quidnet and started his hermitage. It is said that he took Sally's silver spoons with him and melted them to make buttons for his coat.

Howbeit, days, months and years passed, but no amount of persuasion could coax Parker away from his little shack—he wanted nothing more to do with women and cared naught for the companionship of men. He wanted to be let alone, to be permitted to live as he desired in the little house at Quidnet that had been built for fishermen early in the century.

There he lived ever after, a silent man. The storms fed him with wreckage, which he pulled up and gathered about his castle. Nailed up on the habitation were a score of faded gilt name-boards of vessels which had been driven over the treacherous shoals in the last half century. Many lives he saved by burning fires near

his door for the guidance of fishermen and sailors, and many were the blessings he received. Of himself, however, he would say nothing, and finally his story became as much of a mystery to the newer generation of islanders as to the stranger.

Until the last, the old man preserved the sphinx-like mystery which hung about him. He was stricken ill and for several days no one knew it until a fisherman, passing by his shack, happened to glance within. The old man was huddled in his chair. A ray of light from the window shot over his shoulder and fell upon the closed Bible on his knee. His bowed head was upon his breast, shrouded in the white hair which reached far below his shoulders, and his wonderful, heavy, snowy beard rippled down almost to the floor. He was clad in his customary threadbare, coarse garments, the patches on which were piled one above the other, but stitched with the neatness and precision of a woman's hand.

Kind hands brought him to town and he was given tender care in the institution now known as "Our Island Home." There he passed away on the 18th of December, 1880, carrying with him memories of a shattered romance, of a short and unhappy wedded life.

During his last hours he made just one request. He wanted his Bible buried with him. On the fly-leaf, written by his mother many years before, were the words: "To my boy, Fred. Always be true!"

NOVEMBER 23, 1935

REWARD OF HEROISM.—The Massachusetts Humane Society has awarded the sum of four dollars to each of the men who manned the life-boat at Quidnet on the 11th ult., and who, by their noble efforts, succeeded in saving Mr. William Henry from imminent peril, as related in our issue of May 10th. We are pleased to learn of this acknowledgment of their conduct, though of course, they themselves had no idea of pecuniary recompense, but followed the noble impulse of brave hearts in venturing out to the assistance of a fellow-man and neighbor in distress. The names of the boat's crew are as follows: Alexander Bunker, Joseph Fisher, Charles S. Norcross, William H. Norcross, John B. Norcross, Oliver C. Chadwick, Frank P. Chadwick, Joseph Francis, Washington Chase.

PICKEREL.—Sesachacha Pond has been opened into the sea during the past week, and large quantities of noble pickerel left on its shores by the receding waters. These have been gathered up by the dwellers in that neighborhood, and many were shipped away by Express yesterday morning. These fish were put into the pond many years ago by the late John W. Barrett, and have increased very rapidly.

CAMP QUIDNET

A summer camp for adults.

Lake Sesachacha

Bathing Boating Fishing Gunning

SPECIAL DINNERS

Day and evening parties accommodated.

SHORE DINNERS

Served on short notice.

Telephone 109-4.

1909

The News From Quidnet.

What is the news from Quidnet? Well,

There isn't much we have to tell; Not much, that is, that sounds like news

Considering what you peruse Of gunmens' crimes and flapper's capers

At breakfast in the morning papers. We have no scandals to report, We run no jail, we have no court; No one—I think that I am right— Was robbed or murdered here last night.

I have not heard that anybody Was caught transporting too much toddy,

Or that a husband, sick of strife, Ran off with someone else's wife. Turn elsewhere for such happenings In Quidnet we don't do such things.

Is there no news in Quidnet? Well The sun's been shining quite a spell The wind's southwest, and heaven knows

She sure does blow some when she blows.

The surf's been low, and through the day

You'll see the sun-tanned children play

With many a laugh and many a shout

Like pert sand-pipers in and out. Here's news to roll upon your tongue In Quidnet children still are young

No other news from Quidnet? Well The Queen has bully beets to sell, There's no more peas, but there'll be corn

For everybody Sunday morn. Pa Norcross has his windmill up; It's forty feet from ground to top My guess is when she starts to spin There'll be no holding of her in. In Sacacha, I much regret, The coy perch is not biting yet. Each wise one has a different reason—

"Lord, how they did bite here last season!"

Alas, that fishes caught last year Should fall so coldly on the ear!

Is that the news from Quidnet? Well,

There are some things that we do tell.

To a mad world that loves its riches What use to tell the joys of quiet? Yes, Really. JOYS! Hold on to your hat!

I thought that you'd find news that!

H. H. 1
Quidnet, August 8, 1924.

WESTON HOUSE, QUIDNET,

NANTUCKET, - - - MASS.

THIS house, so widely known for its advantages for Perch fishing, Shark fishing, etc., will open for the season June 27th. First-class shore dinners will be furnished at any time, and the tables will be second to none. Fishing boats in attendance for the guests.

A. M. NORCROSS, Proprietor.

jet8

British Ambassador Enjoyed Vacation in Nantucket.

Sir Oliver Franks, the British Ambassador to the United States, who has been enjoying the month of August on Nantucket with Lady Franks and their two daughters, Caroline and Alison, left on Thursday for the embassy in Washington.

At an interview granted newspapermen Wednesday afternoon, Sir Oliver stated that his family had enjoyed their vacation on the island, especially taking advantage of the "things which nature offers—swimming, hiking and sun-bathing."

Residing in a well-appointed house at the east end of the island, the Ambassador found conditions much to his liking, especially in view of the fact that the British government saw to it that little business from the embassy interfered with his vacation.

In his reply to numerous questions it was obvious that Sir Oliver was ready only to discuss his fishing trips, golf, or swimming.

"I cannot answer that," he replied to a query concerning affairs in his home-land, "because I have been out of touch with things this past month."

Asked if he had become interested in Nantucket's history, he replied that he had not read as much on the local scene as he had wished, but that he had been impressed with the remarkable whaling background of the island.

Lady Franks, with 10-year-old Caroline and 4-year-old Alison, came in to join the group. They were unanimous in declaring that sunning and gathering shells on the beaches were outstanding attractions of the island. The variety of the shells was a surprise to them all.

It was apparent from the few comments made during the short interview that Sir Oliver and Lady Franks appreciated the fact that privacy is respected on Nantucket. Although nothing was said on the score, the fact that they could attend Union Chapel or the Casino movies in 'Sconset, and enjoy the out-of-door attractions on the island without being besieged by celebrity hunters must have impressed them.

Before accepting the important post as Ambassador to the United States, Sir Oliver held for a number of years the Chair in Moral Philosophy at Queens College, Oxford.

One morning last week, as he stood at the ticket window on Steamboat wharf, making reservations for his return to Washington, a gentleman in the line remarked quietly: "There is much here to observe in the field of moral philosophy, don't you think?" And without waiting for a reply the questioner walked off, smiling broadly.

Sir Oliver in his six feet three inches in height, is a distinguished younger British diplomat. He has a pleasant, disarming smile, and possesses the ability of parrying questions with considerable finesse.

Life-Saving.

A circumstance has occurred this week which has fully demonstrated the utility and necessity of the new life-boat of the Humane Society at Quidnet. Several dories were out on Monday last, when the wind rose with such violence as to endanger the lives of the hardy fishermen who manned them, and it was with great difficulty that such skilful and powerful men as William H. Orpin and John Smith, succeeded in reaching the shore, they being entirely exhausted on arrival by their efforts in this struggle for dear life. Meanwhile, Mr. William Henry, a man more advanced in years, was unable to make head against the force of the gale, and his little dory went off like a mere cockle-shell on the waters. It was at once perceived that he was in imminent danger of going on the Rip, in which case, his fate would be inevitable. The gallant boatmen of the village had no idea of seeing him perish without a noble attempt to save him, and here the eight-oared boat of the Society came into play, and was found invaluable. She was at once manned by a stout crew, who, after a hard struggle, succeeded in saving Mr. Henry and his dory, and bringing them safe to land. The boat is a very fine one, costing, we understand, about five hundred dollars, and was furnished for this station, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. F. C. Sanford, whose interest in the subject is well known. The case to which we have called attention is abundant proof of the policy of placing her where she is, and shows that the money was well expended. The crew manning the surf-boat, were as follows: Alexander Bunker, J. Fisher, Charles S. Norcross, William H. Norcross, John B. Norcross, Oliver C. Chadwick, Frank P. Chadwick, Joseph Francis, and Washington Chase.

Twenty-five dories floated from Quidnet, Tuesday, for the codfishing grounds. Several fishermen who have heretofore made 'Sconset their headquarters have gone over to the Quidnet ranks, and the place bids fair to resume its old-time prestige as the leading fishing point of the east end. The cause of the exodus is said to be on account of Pochick rip having made so far north on the 'Sconset shore as to render landing more difficult, Quidnet having a still further advantage in the fact of there being less tide to contend with.

Many of our summer visitors who visit Quidnet, complain bitterly of the horrible stench caused by the shark carcasses which are left to rot in the sun on the beach. A stranger who was at Quidnet on Tuesday, states that he counted 78 dead sharks on the beach in all stages of decomposition and that the smell was something awful. This resort is a favorite one for visitors, and the place should be made as attractive as possible. We understand that Mr. Chadwick has applied to our health officers to have the shark bodies removed. There is no doubt but that the matter will be promptly attended to.

1881

Sept. 4, 1948

Aug. 17, 1892

June 6, 1874

May 16, 1874

Oct. 29, 1895

Proprietors' Meeting.

A meeting of the Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Land of the Island of Nantucket will be held at the Registry of Deeds in said Nantucket, on Wednesday, May 10, 1922, at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the following purposes, viz:—

First: To choose a moderator for said meeting.

Second: To act on the petition of Franklin E. Smith to lay out and set off to him and his heirs and assigns, forever, all the right, title and interest which said Proprietors may have in and to the following tracts of land, located in said Nantucket, viz:

(g) A tract of land at Quidnet, north of Sesachacha Pond, now occupied by Mathilde H. Geddes, as set forth in a plan to be hereafter filed.

(h) A tract of land at Quidnet, north of Sesachacha Pond, now occupied by Mary M. Gardner, as set forth in a plan to be hereafter filed.

Third: To appoint an attorney with power to appear and represent the Proprietors in any Land Court case or other legal proceedings, with such powers as may be voted.

LAURISTON BUNKER,
Proprietors' Clerk.

ap15-3t

Summer School at Quidnet.

Professor Fitzgerald, a well known instructor of Boston, has been here this week arranging for the establishment of a boys' summer school at Quidnet the coming season. The place is ideal for such a project, located on the shores of Sesachacha pond, and Mr. Fitzgerald has closed a deal with L. E. Crowell for the rental of Quidnet Inn, it being the instructor's intention to have the boys live out of doors in tents and to take their meals in the restaurant building. Mr. Fitzgerald is connected with the Oliver Wendell Holmes school.

Camp Nantucket Open.

Camp Nantucket opened at Quidnet this week, the first bunch of lads who are to spend the summer there arriving on Monday's steamer. Professor Fitzgerald, under whose instruction the boys are to live for the next two months, thinks he has hit upon just the right location for the camp, and his pupils are anticipating a most enjoyable summer.

Cosy tents are to be pitched on the shore of Sesachacha pond, in which the boys will sleep, meals being served to them in the Quidnet Inn. Altogether about twenty boys, ranging from ten to fifteen years of age, will avail themselves of the privileges of the summer school this season, but another year it is probable the number will be largely increased.

July 4, 1908

THE ICE BLOCKADE.

Two weeks ago last Wednesday morning steamer Nantucket left her dock here, and after an hour and one-half's struggle with the ice, forced a passage out, and proceeded to Woods Holl. Since that time the severe weather, as all our residents are aware, has kept us ice-bound, and the glad sight of the steamer has greeted us but once in the time, although two attempts have been made to reach the island—one on Thursday week, the steamer turning back after reaching nearly to Cross Rip light-ship; the second last Sunday. What a beautiful day it was. The morning was very cold, the mercury standing at 6° above zero before sunrise. Not a breath of wind rustled the trees; not a cloud appeared in the sky. As soon as daylight would allow, the alert Clark ran his glass out the north window of the tower and commenced scanning the northwestern horizon for a glimpse of the boat, which the telegraph announced, the evening previous, would leave Woods Holl at 6.30. William was not alone in his lofty perch, for the little lookout was crowded. By 7 o'clock the big mail team backed up to the Post Office, and the well-filled sacks

ward under the influence of the tide, and at the time the steamer's anchor was dropped, there was a strip of clear water extending the entire length of the shore north and south. There was scarcely enough motion to the water to create a ripple on the shore, and not a floating cake of ice appeared in sight between the shore and edge of the ice field. Passengers and mails were quickly landed, the small boat making three round trips to the steamer, when Capt. Bartow, seeing the ice was again closing shoreward, took anchor and returned to Woods Holl. A note from him stated that they came by way of the north channel, around Succanessett and Handkerchief lightships, encountering heavy ice from Woods Holl to Great Point, the trip occupying five hours and twenty minutes, three hours being the usual running time.

The boat's bow and general appearance indicated hard service. Among the departing guests were Lieut. John Dennett, Mr. Gould, the representative of the Morris Safe Company, William H. Cook, Miss Mary Quinell, Frank E. Congdon and Elliot Beaman, the two latter being enroute for

the hilly country, the panorama was pleasing, for skirting the base of the hills, or gliding in sleighs over their summits, could be seen the returning teams, with a double and single team heavily loaded with mail matter in their midst.

Monday afternoon snow commenced falling, and added two inches to the already abundant supply. Tuesday morning revealed a cold, impenetrable vapor hanging over the island, which carried a chill to ones very marrow, and continued until well into the night, the wind in the meantime veering to southeast. All Wednesday forenoon the vanes were fickle, playing between southeast and southwest, with light rain, that settled the snow quickly, the mercury holding at about 40° above until late in the afternoon. The ice in the bay gave way under this warm influence, and several wide seams were opened, and at nightfall the ice was reported to be running out by Great point at a rapid rate, and hopes of early deliverance from the icy fetters were raised. The wind in the meantime hauled again to northwest, and the mercury fell to the freezing point, and Thursday morning threw a cold

JANUARY 28, 1893.



LOADING THE MAILS.

THE LANDING.

STEAMER NANTUCKET OFF QUIDNET.

SCENES ON QUIDNET BEACH, SUNDAY, JAN. 22, 1893.

and ponches were loaded and dispatched for Quidnet, which was understood to be the point to be reached. A system of signals with Great Point and Coskata had been arranged for Capt. Bartow's guidance, and they indicated Quidnet to be a favorable place. Just after 10 a. m. Hull's horn sounded forth the intelligence that the boat was signalled, and then there was a grand rush of teams out over the road. Wheel vehicles, sleighs, pungs and sleds were mixed up in the eastward procession, and the beach at Quidnet contained a crowd of nearly two hundred eager people as the steamer slowed up and dropped anchor off the Mills' cottage. The whaleboat was in readiness, in charge of Mr. W. H. Norcross, who had for his crew, Johnathan O. Freeman, D. C. Brayton, jr., James H. Norcross and Marcus E. Howes. This boat was quickly launched, and rowed to the steamer, which was lying calmly swinging to a short scope of hawser. Never was there a more favorable opportunity for effecting a landing. At 8 o'clock in the morning nothing but ice could be seen. At 10 o'clock the entire ice field was moving directly east-

Worcester, where they were to take the examination for admission to the Polytechnic Institute of that city last Thursday. Among the arrivals were Mr. William H. Jones, Zimri Cathcart, Mr. Wilcox, representing the Boston Globe, Lester Gardner and Miss Mary E. Starbuck. But a very little freight could be landed, several sacks of grain, a little coffee, two cases frozen eggs, frozen oranges, and yeast cakes that had got in their work despite the cold weather, and raised the lids of the boxes in which they were inclosed.

The picture on the beach was a delightful winter view. The line of the coast is quite straight for two or three miles, and this entire distance there was a solid, ragged ice wall at high water mark from two to three feet high, where the waves had tossed the cakes of ice upon the shore, and the entire beach was paved with fragments of the ice, with a covering of snow. It was a wild, dreary picture, and our artist has very cleverly depicted the landing, which view is made from photographs taken on the spot, and is in no way imaginative. As the steamer took her anchor, the teams started for town, and as one drove over

blanket on the prospects of the previous day, the mercury standing at 24° above, and the ice back in its same old state, except that off the south side, which had disappeared. At the north of us the ice floes reached to the lightship on Handkerchief shoal, and all along Great point shore there were immense fields of it.

The people were amused by the accounts given in some of the daily papers received Sunday, of the condition of affairs on the island, which in some instances were so grossly exaggerated as to be positively ridiculous. There are some articles of daily requirements that are running very low, especially kerosene oil and grain, but there is no cause for alarm. Several stores that have used kerosene for illuminating, have put in electric lights. The excellent sleighing has diverted the public mind in a measure from the monotony of our situation, and has been daily enjoyed until yesterday, but is now decidedly poor in quality.

As we go to press (Friday afternoon), the weather holds mild, the ice has moved out from the bay considerably, and the prospect of communication being resumed brightens.

Camp at Quidnet Again.

The summer camp for boys established at Quidnet for the last two years, plans to come to Nantucket again this year. The camp has been re-organized and enlarged to meet the demands of numerous applicants. As in former years, it will be under the personal direction of M. E. Fitzgerald, principal of the Oliver Wendell Holmes school, Boston, Mass. He has associated with him young men who are leaders in the educational and athletic activities of that city. Under his direction the camp has grown steadily in number and influence, so that we may now consider this a Nantucket institution.

"Camp Quidnet," near by, will be used for the accommodation of parents of the boys, and special guests. The famous shore dinners served at this place last year will be continued as a special feature. The high standard of service inaugurated last year will be maintained, and we know the many summer guests who enjoyed a trip to this picturesque spot last year will look forward with keen anticipation to another such visit.



Landing Provisions at Quidnet, February 15, 1912.
J. B. Ashley Lugging Meat Ashore.

The Quidnet Inn.

To the public:

ON and after July 2d, we will be prepared to serve SHORE DINNERS. Fried Perch a specialty. Our house is located on the shore of Sesachacha lake (on the W. H. Norcross property). Picnic parties furnished with extras. Excellent fishing on the lake. Boats furnished. Telephone Connection 9-31.
je25 6t T. G. MACY, Prop.

Aug. 13 Good Perch Fishing. 1908

Capt. William H. Tice, 82 years of age, in company with his son, made a record catch of perch at Hummock pond, on Friday of last week, landing nearly three hundred. One specimen shown us, which was caught by Capt. Tice, weighed nearly 1½ pounds and measured 18¼ inches from tip to tip.

Quidnet Gift Shop

Facing Pond and Ocean

Boats on the Pond for sailing and fishing. Afternoon Tea.
Tel. 109-11 or 109-4.

Eels Were Plentiful.

A large gang of men and boys on 'Sachacha Pond, last Sunday, made an unusual scene. Some of them were skating, but most of them were "eeling". The eels were found quite abundant, too, and the catch on Saturday and Sunday, through the ice, was said to be over twenty barrels. Gilbert Manter seemed to be having as good luck as any of them, but there were a number of others who were almost as good with the spear. Usually pond eels are muddy, but the fact that Sesachacha has been opened to the sea almost every year has improved the condition of the pond and the catch of eels made this week did not have the muddy flavor expected. In addition to furnishing food, the "eeling" made great sport over the week-end.

Accident.

Thomas G. Macy, of Quidnet Inn, met with a serious accident last week. He arose at night to close a window, and fell down a flight of stairs, sustaining a severe shock and serious bruises which incapacitate him for his duties. His escape from more serious injury was something bordering on the miraculous. It was a most unfortunate mishap, as Mr. Macy had just got his house in readiness for the season, and was expecting a large party on Saturday, and to be thus thrown out was very annoying. But willing hands lent him aid in his emergency. He is improving slowly.

Quidnet Has Electric Currant.

The little village of Quidnet, on the shore of Sesachacha pond, now has electric service, the line having been extended there this spring by the local lighting company. The privilege of being the first person in Quidnet to turn lights on in his cottage was accorded John B. Norcross on Thursday last. Mr. Norcross was born in the village 75 years ago and he naturally took pride in being the first person to switch on the electrics.

Stag Party Enjoyed Chinese Dinner at Quidnet.

Emile Genesky and Orison V. Hull were hosts at a stag party held at "The Perch" in Quidnet, last Sunday afternoon. The fact that the Quidnet road was closed to navigation with a mile of mud a foot deep, where even Fords had given up the ghost a few hours before, did not bar the party from taking soundings through a new channel via the swamp and the moors, and all four cars reached the hamlet safely. But it was some journey!

There were ten in the party and when they gathered around in front of the fire-place, with the logs a-blaze and the smoke curling from pipes and cigarettes, the "league of nations" had nothing on them. The leading nations of the world were all represented, but China seemed to hold the centre of the stage, for the main purpose of the party was to enjoy a real Chinese dinner served by Charles Leung.

The "town" was also well represented, for there were two Selectmen, two Constables, two Police Officers, the Chief of Fire Department, one of the Sewer Commissioners, two of the County Commissioners, and the Special Justice of the District Court, and all brought big appetites.

As soon as the party arrived, bringing along a few tons of mud, each was assigned his special task in order to help the cause along. Charlie Chadwick built the fire in the kitchen range, while Jimmy Levins whittled some shavings; Lawrence Mooney went down to the lake for a pail of water with which to suck the pump, and Selectman Royal took a hammer and a spade with which to break the ice; Chief Hull built a roaring fire in the fireplace while Selectman Chase gathered the wood; Judge Genesky tuned up the phonograph; and "Big John" donned his white apron and assisted "Leo" in preparing the Chinese "feed."

Everybody hustled for a while, until the odor of steaming soup and other edibles began to creep through the cracks from the kitchen—then the gang sat down and loosened belts. Consternation reigned for a moment, as the door opened and "Leo" stood there with tears in his eyes: "What's the matter?" queried Chief Hull. "Oh, me awful sorry—awful sorry. Can't help. Chinaman forgot to bring pork for Genesky!" Emile threw a sofa pillow at the Chinaman just as he slammed the door and escaped to the realms of the kitchen to put the finishing touches on the "chop suey."

When the word was given the crowd fell to with a will and got outside of the following:

Soup	Chop Suey
Fried Chicken with Mushrooms	
French Fried Potatoes.	
Chow Mein	
Layer Cake	Ice Cream
China Tea	

It was an entirely informal dinner—everybody helped himself and helped the other fellow, too. When it was all over and one or two in the crowd admitted that they were beaten, all hands turned to and cleaned up, while Genesky kept the machine working and the Chief kept replenishing the fire. Only the prospect of another wallow through the mud, with nightfall approaching, caused the party to gather up their working tools late in the afternoon and stow the equipment back into the cars for the homeward voyage.

DEATH OF THE QUIDNET RECLUSE.—Fredrick F. Parker, well-known not only to our own people but to many thousands of visitors as the Quidnet Hermit, died at the Asylum in town on Saturday last in the eightieth year of his age. In view of his feeble condition and infirmities he was removed to that Institution a year ago by order of the town fathers, and has since continued to fail gradually until the end. We remember Mr. Parker as having been in our younger days a carpenter by trade, pursuing his business in a shop on South Water street, which was, we think, burned with others in the great fire of 1846. Though somewhat noted for his eccentricities he was a man of intelligence and possessed a large stock of general information, steady enough in his habits and earning a comfortable living. Impelled, as it seemed, only by an eccentric whim, he isolated himself from the haunts of men some twenty years ago, and took up his abode in a rude hut at Quidnet, where of late years he became an object of some interest to the numerous strangers who visited that quarter of the island. He was communicative enough, and always ready to talk with these visitors, many of whom made him small presents, thus helping him to eke out a living. He was sometimes seen on our streets, but did not remain long in town, always turning to his voluntary solitude, and even when stricken down by his infirmities a year ago, it was against his own protest that he was removed to a more comfortable home, as a measure of humanity. He spent much time in reading, and we understand he has left a collection of memoranda, which he sometimes talked of publishing in book form, and which may perhaps possess interest and value, though we know nothing of their nature; his wife, whom he abandoned died some years ago, and he leaves no descendants. Mr. Parker belonged to a family noted for longevity and vigorous health, he being one of twelve, five brothers and seven sisters. Two have recently died aged respectively 80 and 79 years, and the remaining ten are still living.

For the first time since the hermit Parker settled at Quidnet, the present is the first winter that the hamlet has been entirely depopulated. Not a family-resident there since fall.

The Peepers.

A full moon over 'Sachacha—
Sankaty flashing—
Far away on a moonlit shoal,
The faint sound of a bellbuoy.
A warm ocean-scented breeze gently
stirring the dry reeds by the pond.
From the surrounding swamps
A chorus of peepers
That indefinable, heart-warming
promise of Spring.

Grace E. Huttaff.



As evidence that bass are running at Nantucket, Jarvis Schauffer, Quidnet resident, poses with two big ones he landed from the shore at Smith's Point. The two bass pictured weighed 43½ and 34 pounds. He landed six fish, totaling 250 pounds. (Photo by Stuart Day, Nantucket).

"SQUANTUM."—Another of those "Squantums" (how that word bothers the green 'uns,) came off at Quidnet yesterday. About two hundred people participated in the festivities of the occasion, and demolished about forty bushels of clams. The Brass Band were in attendance upon a "chariot" drawn by four black horses. The party returned to town escorted by the Band, under the auspices of admiral Chase, and presented a lively appearance. A pressure of business prevented us from accepting a polite invitation to be present, but we may have a few lines from our "reporter."

One of the large tents at Camp Quidnet, on the shore of Sesachacha pond, was totally destroyed by fire one day this week, together with its contents. The origin of the blaze is unknown, the flames wreaking destruction in spite of the efforts of the Quidnet fire department—which were energetic in the extreme.

DEATH OF THE QUIDNET HERMIT.—Frederick Parker, better known as the hermit of Quidnet, died at the Asylum on Saturday morning last, at the age of 79 years and 8 days. For many years previous to his removal to town Mr. Parker had lived the life of a recluse at Quidnet, his hut being visited yearly, since Nantucket became a summer resort, by hundreds of strangers, drawn thither by curiosity to witness his eccentric mode of living. Years ago before he adopted his solitary life, he carried on the business of carpentering in town, and was at one time a constable here. His shop was destroyed in the great fire of 1846, and shortly after he renounced society and entered upon the life of a recluse, taking up his abode at Quidnet. His tastes were simple and his wants few and easily supplied by his own exertions until his strength failed him. Of late years he has subsisted in a large measure by charity, "callers" seldom neglecting to leave some substantial token of their visit. He had a cordial greeting for all, possessed a fund of general information, particularly on genealogical matters, and never seemed averse to being "interviewed." He was a great reader and his rude dwelling was stored with books, periodicals and papers which he had accumulated. He had also compiled records covering many years, which, as he once informed the writer, he contemplated publishing before his death. So long as able during his hermitage he made periodical visits to town, generally on foot, and his tall figure and venerable aspect heightened by long white hair and a flowing beard, will not soon be forgotten. About a year ago he received a fall, followed by a fit of sickness, and the Selectmen ordered his removal to the Asylum, where he has since failed gradually.

Mr. Albert B. Pitman caught a blue fish in Sesachacha pond last week. The fish had become chilled and was driven ashore. It was remarkable for its state of obesity. The pond closed up leaving bluefish, scup, sharks and other salt water fish entrapped, and it is probable that a "cold snap" will chill them and bring them to the surface.

A SEAL.—Mr. Obed Mendell captured a young seal a few days ago at Quidnet. The little fellow has been given in charge of Mr. Herbert S. Sweet and is still alive. Mr. Sweet has been considerably annoyed by numerous applicants for a "peep" at the curiosity, all of whom he is obliged to refuse as it is essential that he be kept as quiet as possible in the hopes that he may recover from the injuries received at the time of his capture.

Selectmen Withdraw Quidnet Road Project

A proposal to widen and re-surface Quidnet Road at a cost of \$50,000 in State funds was withdrawn by Selectmen following a protest petition by Quidnet residents presented at the Board's meeting Wednesday.

W. Ripley Nelson, a Quidnet resident, appeared as spokesman for the Quidnet residents and read to the Board a petition addressed to the State Department of Public Works which held a hearing here today on Selectmen's recommendations for new road construction with funds from a \$200,000,000 bond issue which the State is floating for statewide road work.

Mr. Nelson said the residents had decided to notify the Selectmen in advance in order, he added, to save them embarrassment when the Board presented its recommendations to the DPU commissioners today. He said the protest had been signed by nearly all Quidnet residents who, he declared, said the present road is adequate and needs only reasonable maintenance. He said it is "only fair to tell you first so you may use the money advantageously elsewhere."

Chairman Allen W. Holdgate said he agreed that there should be no confusion at the hearing and that the Board did not want new construction where residents opposed it. He added, however, that the town should get its share of State funds for road work. He also said he did not think the DPW would approve funds for the Quidnet Road in view of the opposition.

Norman B. McWilliams wrote the Board complaining of dusty conditions on the Broad Creek Crossing Road at Madaket where he is a resident. Selectmen voted to place permanent no parking signs at the Madaket Pier to replace printed one which have been torn down. Edith Mason, Squam Head Summer resident, wrote the Selectmen, expressing appreciation for its regulations restricting solicitation of pedestrians by sightseeing and taxi drivers.

Kenneth Price complained to the Board about the new asphalt paving in front of his home at 26 Milk Street. He said he would have shared the cost of brick pavement of the sidewalk had he been informed of the Selectmen's plans to hard surface it.

Selectmen authorized Oscar Ceely to make repairs which he said are needed to the town clock. A request for a permit to hold a "jam session" dance at Legion Hall, climaxing the season from 11 p. m. Sunday to 2 a. m. Labor Day was denied by the Board.

Chairman Holdgate said a similar dance last year brought him many complaints against the noise.

The Board granted Frank Correia a taxi permit.

Aug. 22, 1952

Quidnet Pre-Teen-Agers' Play Swells Hospital Fund.

A new play, "An American Girl Goes Back to Switzerland", made its world premiere on the Quidnet front porch of Dr. and Mrs. Reginald Siddell on Friday last, with a repeat, request performance on Sunday night, August 30. The play, a melodrama packed with action, was written and performed by Quidnet's pre-teen-age set, assisted by a staging crew, ushers, and a "press" photographer from the community's youngest teen-age group.

The entire project, which was many weeks in preparation, was designed to swell Quidnet's donation toward the building fund for the new Nantucket Cottage Hospital. The final totals showed a gate for the two nights of \$10.30, a worthy accomplishment with a ten cent admission charge and a seating capacity of six chairs and a bench. (The overflow crowd sat on the ground.)

The seven scenes of the play were joined by the commentary of Paul Hudson, interlocutor and announcer, of Pittsburgh, Pa. On hand to catch the play's high moments were the flashing bulbs of John McElderry, Jr.'s camera, which he wielded with a professional flair.

A new technique which may start a welcome revolution in staging was instituted at the curtain call. "Father", played by Reginald Siddell, of Englewood, N. J., who "died" in Scene 3, was carried on for his curtain call as dead as when last seen on the stage.

Featured in the cast, besides Mr. Hudson and Mr. Siddell were: Ann Maurer, Princeton, N. J.; Susanne Swihart, Glenshaw, Penn.; Michael Siddell, Englewood, N. J.; Sue McElderry, Oyster Bay Cove, N. Y., and Linda Guenther, Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y.

The staging crew included Susan Denby, Garden City, N. Y.; Regina Mae Simon, Scarborough, N. Y.; Helen Maurer, Princeton, N. J.; Jane Roberts, Englewood, N. J. Ushers were James Hudson, Pittsburgh, Penn.; Thomas Maurer, Princeton, N. J., and John Siddell of Englewood, N. J.

The campaign office reports substantial contributions also being received from many persons who have given a gift to the hospital fund in lieu of flowers for deceased relatives and friends.

Another special event held this week was a dinner party at the home of Mrs. Charles S. Grant, 3 Coon Street, for the benefit of the building fund.

Sept. 5, 1953

A petition for the sale of Quidnet real estate for \$6,500 by Mr. Sanguinetti, administrator of the estate of Isabel Norcross, was allowed. Under an inventory filed, the estate is valued at \$34,484, personal and \$6,000, real.

Youth Urges Beach By Sachacha Pond

A proopsal to convert Sachacha Pond into a fresh water recreation area was submitted to the Board of Selectmen last night in a letter from Alcon H. Chadwick, an employee of the Sankaty Golf Course and son of Sargeant F. Stuart Chadwick and Mrs. Marion Chadwick of Nantucket.

"Shortly following the opening of the pond, a sizeable piece of land along the side of the road and bordering the pond became exposed as a result of the outflow of water," wrote the youth. "At once it occurred to me that this might possibly make an excellent beach for fresh water swimming, particularly for those who don't care for salt water."

Mr. Chadwick wrote that he gave the matter little consideration until it was again brought to his mind by a conversation yesterday. "It was mentioned that, 'it is too bad the town couldn't obtain that stretch by the side of the road and convert it into a small beach,'" he reported.

Mr. Chadwick noted that the conversion of the pond into a recreation area would make it an ideal place for safe fresh water swimming, boating, water skiing and fishing. He explained that the pond is sanitary because it is annually opened to the ocean. In addition, he commented, it would provide a means of income for Island residents.

The youth noted that there was no eel grass to endanger swimming and boating in the pond because of the salt water that is mixed in from the opening. He added that although sand would have to be filled in to make a suitable beach, this could be done at a minimum cost with the cooperation of the townspeople.

"Because Nantucket is my home, because I have an interest in it, and because I felt the above idea to be a reasonable one, I feel it would do no harm in passing it on to you," he concluded.

Acting chairman of the Board of Selectmen Robert Blair termed it a good suggestion. The letter was placed on file.

Aug. 1, 1958

Landlubbers Land at Quidnet.

During Thursday night and part of Friday morning the Coast Guard crews in the Cape and Islands areas were alerted to be on the watch for a 20-foot cabin cruiser named "Berman Bell" with two men aboard that was reported over-due at Chatham. The boat had left Stage Harbor sometime Thursday headed for Nantucket and was supposed to return back there before dark.

The wife of one of the men called the Chatham Coast Guard Station at 1 a.m. when she was unable to find that they had landed at Nantucket, and they had not arrived back at any Cape port. A search was launched immediately for the missing craft.

The Cross Rip lightship reported that the "Berman Bell" had been seen at 9 p.m. and that the men aboard seemed confused as to which way they wanted to go. They tried to get them to come along side but instead the boat left them headed in a southerly direction.

The search went on all night with the 83-footer, the Cutter Hornbeam, and lifeboats from Cape and Island stations participating.

At 7:30 Friday morning CBM Willie Skinner received a telephone call from one of the missing men, who said he was calling from a cottage at Quidnet, and that the "Berman Bell" was beached there and he and his companion were safe. The man who made the call was Ronald Parris and his companion was Harold Myers, both summer residents at Chatham. They said they lost their way trying to find the island and actually thought they were landing on a part of the mainland when they hit the beach at Quidnet in early morning darkness.

The Coast Guard took gasoline to replenish the outboard motor tank and CBM Skinner advised the men not to try the return trip unless they had a pilot with them who knew how to navigate.

July 19, 1958

1952 ?

Revenue Cutters Made Landings at Quidnet.

Last Saturday the revenue cutter Acushnet came down to Nantucket with passengers and mail, but being unable to gain entrance to the harbor, was obliged to steam around to the east end of the island and effect a landing on Quidnet beach. This is the first time the Acushnet ever attempted to reach Nantucket, during the four years she has been in service in this district, and even at this time she made no great effort to break through the ice at the bar, her commander, Lieutenant Wiley, evidently not caring to venture in the shoal waters around the bar at the channel entrance.

The islanders, when they learned by cable that the Acushnet was coming across the sound to the relief of Nantucket, anticipated no difficulty in the cutter making the channel, but the opinion quite generally prevailed that she would have to land mail and passengers at the point, owing to lack of sufficient water at the docks. When she gave up the attempt to enter the harbor and steamed away to the northeast, the several hundred persons gathered on the point, at Beachside and on the cliff were surprised and disappointed, but a telephone message from the wireless station at Sconset brought the encouraging news that the Acushnet would make a landing at Quidnet, and the mails and intending passengers were soon being hustled over the nine miles of rough, icy roads to that point.

The cutter ran outside the shoals, the trip from the bar to Quidnet covering about eighteen miles, and at 3.30 o'clock she dropped anchor a short distance from shore. Off the east end not a particle of ice was visible and as there was only a slight swell heaving upon the beach, the mails and passengers were transported between the cutter and shore without any great difficulty. Two dories manned by William H. Norcross and Frank P. Chadwick and Bertest H. Ray and Fred B. Maglathlin left the beach with the mails even before the cutter had reached her anchorage, and the return trip was made with the dories heavily laden with the sacks of mail matter which had been accumulating at Woods Hole since the previous Wednesday.

Passengers brought ashore from the Acushnet were: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Williams, Noah P. Appleton, Royal C. Appleton, Alfred Dawson, Constables James T. Worth and Orison V. Hull, and a trained nurse who had been summoned to Nantucket. Those taking passage on her were: Miss Charlotte Owen, Mrs. Clinton C. Macy, Mrs. A. H. Ginman, John R. West and family, all of Nantucket, Frank Covil ("Bill", the grain man" of New Bedford), and Henry Phinney, of Boston, also a commercial traveller. Two others who intended to take passage on the cutter failed to get into the dory when it made its last trip, and they did not leave the beach until the cutter was weighing anchor--too late to get aboard.

FEBRUARY 10, 1912



Courtesy of the New Bedford Standard.

Feb. 24, 1912

SCENES AT THE LANDING OF REVENUE CUTTER ACUSHNET AT QUIDNET LAST WEEK.

The upper picture shows supplies going over the side of the cutter into the small boats. The lady in the foreground is Mrs. Melvin Hardy of Nantucket, one of the two female passengers. Chauncey G. Whiton, agent of the Steamboat Company, is shown standing on the starboard rail directing the transfer of the mail into the dories.

The lower left picture shows Manager Haddon, of the telegraph company, and Herbert W. Bennett, one of the Nantucket butchers, who went aboard the cutter for his supply of fresh meat.

The other picture shows the Coskata life-savers rowing out to the cutter to bring ashore supplies.

Upon the request of Postmaster Hammond, the revenue cutter Gresham, which was at Woods Hole, Thursday, was ordered to proceed to Nantucket with mail and passengers. She left yesterday (Friday) morning at 7 o'clock, reaching an anchorage off Quidnet about 11, and landed six passengers, fifty-four sacks of mail, twenty bundles of papers, a supply of yeast cakes, and the moving picture reels. She took away the out-going mail that had accumulated at the local office up to 9 o'clock yesterday morning, and the following passengers: Noah P. Appleton, Royal C. Appleton, Albert W. Ellis, Walter E. Kelley and Mrs. Benjamin Hopkins. Those arriving included Mrs. Clinton C. Macy, Albert P. Pitman, Edward Mansfield, Martha Manter, Mrs. Alonzo D. Fisher and T. C. Marchant. H. G. Haddon and Mr. Veeder, of Woods Hole, made the passage as a pleasure trip.



WILLIAM H. H. SMITH AND HIS MAIL TEAM.

Photo taken when Revenue Cutter Mackinac landed the mails at Quidnet during the freeze-up of 1912.

RECEIPT OF MAILS.

The Government Takes a Hand in the Matter of Getting Mails to Nantucket, and Puts Revenue Cutter Mackinac in Service, Which Makes Two Successful Landings at Quidnet Within the Week.

Postmaster Hammond's appeal to the government authorities at Washington, through Congressman Greene, had the desired effect, for last Saturday afternoon came the joyous announcement that the revenue cutter Mackinac had been ordered to land mails at Nantucket the following day, and would probably leave Woods Hole at 6.30 a. m., to effect a landing on the east end of the island. All day Saturday nothing but open water was seen within a mile or so of Quidnet beach and it was thought a landing could be easily made at that point. Early Sunday morning, however, the wind shifted to the eastward, and the hopes of the islanders fell, as a quantity of slush ice and cakes was soon being swept inshore, and it was feared it would be an extremely hazardous undertaking to attempt to transfer mail matter and passengers between the cutter and shore under those conditions.

Shortly before 8 o'clock the lookout from the tower espied a steamer crossing the sound evidently heading for the east end of Nantucket, and although the revenue cutter was not expected in sight for two hours, some of the over-zealous liverymen hustled their teams across the island to Quidnet, thinking the heralded steamer might be the Mackinac and not wishing to be behindhand on such a momentous occasion. The craft proved to be the lighthouse tender Azalea out cruising, and after running down to Great Round shoal lightship she headed westward and disappeared around Great point.

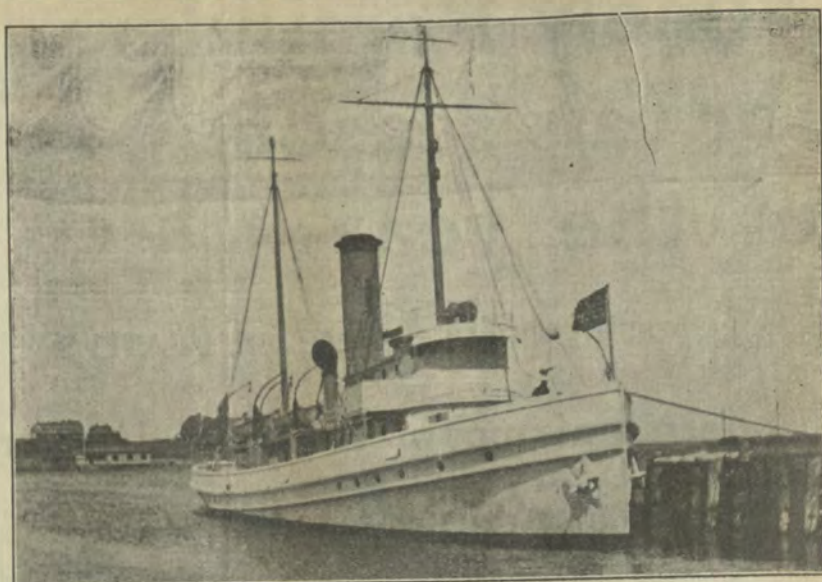
By this time several hundred persons were enroute in teams, and the little hamlet of Quidnet soon presented a lively spectacle. As had been previously arranged by wire with Captain Wilde of the revenue cutter, the American flag was hoisted to the top of the staff on the hill to denote the most favorable point to effect a landing, and as the Mackinac bore down from Great Round shoal, preparations were made to launch dories into the constantly moving slush ice. Many persons were a bit credulous as to the possibility of successfully handling such small boats under the existing conditions, but just as the cutter entered the ice-field at 10.30 o'clock, it was apparent that the ice was moving off-shore somewhat, and Captain Wilde ran the steamer within five hundred feet from shore.

The first dory launched was manned by Oscar and George Norcross and they succeeded in reaching the cutter by skillful maneuvering among the big ice-cakes. The dory was soon piled high with mail pouches, and with one

passenger, Harry M. Harps, seated in the stern, the two Quidnet fishermen returned to shore without a mishap. The several hundred persons gathered on the beach gave vent to their appreciation of the feat with cheers, and as two other dories, manned by William H. Norcross and John P. Taber and James A. Backus and Elliot M. Brown, were by this time launched and on their way to the cutter, it was realized that the landing would be successfully accomplished, especially as the ice was continually clearing away from the beach. Load after load of mail matter was brought ashore, followed by the other passengers, Richard Harps, Rev. H. H. Ryder, John O'Leary, and representatives of the Boston Journal and the Boston American. The latter brought with him a bundle of newspapers, which he announced were for free distribution, and there was a lively scramble on the beach for a few minutes, the news-hungry islanders tumbling over each other in their efforts to secure copies. The ten persons who had been ice-bound here were taken out to the cutter on the return trips of the dories and all were safely transported without difficulty. Tons of newspapers and meat were then brought ashore, and immediately loaded upon teams and carried to town in the wake of the mail wagons. Nothing whatever occurred to mar the success of the performance, and an hour after the first dory was launched, the cutter headed about and with a farewell whistle steamed rapidly away on the return trip to Woods Hole, having brought temporary relief to ice-bound Nantucket.

The ten persons who took passage on the Mackinac were: Rev. and Mrs. Edward Day of Nantucket, Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Eugene Stone, of Boston, Mr. Phillips of Providence, T. A. Stanley of Falmouth, D. A. Judson of Lansingburg, N. Y., George M. Watson of Boston, Thomas G. Macy and Cromwell G. Macy of New York.

The Mackinac made another successful landing at Quidnet, yesterday morning, under more favorable conditions than on Sunday last. The only ice encountered was a long distance off shore and the cutter ploughed through it like a knife. Four passengers were landed: Mr. and Mrs. George M. Morris, Marjory Ayers and John Rich. Besides the mail and newspapers, a small quantity of meat, butter and yeast cakes, and a few town reports were landed. Shortly after 10 o'clock, her task being accomplished, the Mackinac headed about for Woods Hole and was soon out of sight, ploughing her way through the extensive ice fields which extend out around Handkerchief lightship.



REVENUE CUTTER ACUSHNET.

Obituary.

The untimely death of Myron F. Worth, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Worth, on Thursday afternoon, sent a feeling of sadness through the community. His illness was brief, for just a week previous to his decease he was hard at work with others on Quidnet beach loading provisions that had been landed from the cutter, and it was there he contracted the cold which later developed into pleurisy, causing his death.

Myron Worth was a quiet, energetic young man, faithful to all trusts that devolved upon him, and for a number of years he had been in the employ of R. E. Burgess & Sons, winning the respect and confidence of his employers and the community. By hard work and the desire to do right, he won many friends, to whom his passing is a severe shock.

Left a widower sixteen months ago by the sudden death of his young wife after a short period of married life, he had met and borne his sorrow bravely, all the while endeavoring to live a life which would win for him the respect of his fellow-men. In this he succeeded. Myron Worth was a gentleman, and he has left the heritage of a good name and an untarnished character.

He was a member of the local order of Red Men, of John B. Chace Engine Company No. 4, and of the Nantucket Athletic club.

Funeral services will be held in the Methodist church, Sunday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

1912
JOHN WILLIAMS

Has

Boats ^A_N^D Fishing Gear

For

PERCH FISHING PARTIES

For Rent, at Sesachacha Pond.

If you desire to pass a delightful day, don't fail to angle for the silver perch at Sachacha. Parties desiring to arrange for boats ahead, should address JOHN WILLIAMS at Nantucket, Mass. je28 2mo

Feb. 18, 1905

Aug. 23, 1890

Revenue Cutter Acushnet Responds to Nantucket's Appeal For Relief.

Since our last issue Nantucket has experienced a continuation of the "freeze-up," and the days have passed wearily to many of the townspeople whose supplies of certain of the necessities of life were running low—if not exhausted. The first action taken by the town meeting Monday was to ask for relief from the transportation authorities, that provisions be landed on the island without delay. The first appeal not having the desired effect, a second was voted Tuesday, and in response the revenue cutter Acushnet was ordered to load meats and other provisions at Woods Hole and proceed to Nantucket, Thursday morning.

While the ice embargo still continues (although prospect of release is more favorable) the islanders have been supplied with about three tons of fresh meat, and an ample supply of butter, yeast cakes and other necessary articles to last until the harbor opens again, or until the cutter lands another supply of provisions, should the frigid conditions continue over a week longer.

The Acushnet left Woods Hole early in the morning, met with considerable ice on the passage, and anchored off the Quidnet beach at 11.30 o'clock. About two hundred persons and countless teams were gathered in the little hamlet, the event being interesting and, in a measure, impressive.

To anxious watchers on shore, who could see the ice-field drawing nearer and nearer to the beach by the action of tide and wind, it seemed as though the cutter's passage was unusually long, and some one was constantly searching the horizon with either field-glass or spy-glass, for the first sign of the steamer. Slush ice was being pressed in close to the beach and those familiar with the tidal action off the east end predicted that the ice-field would be hard on the beach again inside of two hours.

When the first smoke was seen from the Acushnet, away off near Great Point rip, a feeling of relief went up, for it was seen that she was ploughing steadily through the ice-field and would be able to make a successful landing. The sea was smooth, with not the least sign of surf, and but for the ice cakes along the shore and the soft slush inside the white ice to be seen in the distance, the scene would not have even looked winterish, for the air was soft and balmy, with bright sunshine.

The boat from the Coskata life-saving station, under Capt. John B. Norcross, came down to Quidnet to assist in the transportation of provisions, and three dories were placed in service by the Quidnet fishermen. Even before the Acushnet dropped anchor, the four boats were afloat and pulling off-shore. Prof. Burt G. Wilder, with his trunks, boxes and pet coat, occupying one dory, with the Professor perched high on top of his luggage. Alfred Dawson and Edward Mansfield were the other departing passengers, and those landed were Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hardy and Miss Marianna Hussey.

As the boats reached the beach heavily laden with sacks of mail, daily papers, hind quarters of beef, tubs of butter, etc., the shore took on great activity. Teams which had been waiting up on the bank were driven to the water's edge and laden with the provisions, several of the local business men being on the scene personally to superintend operations. Those who witnessed the landing will never forget it, for it really was an interesting sight, the transportation of the several tons of provisions between the cutter and shore occupying but about half an hour. As the cutter weighed anchor and steamed away through the ice-field to the northward, some of those assembled on the beach watching operations could not suppress a cheer, and it was a good-natured and well-satisfied crowd which wended its way back to town in the wake of the mail teams and wagons loaded with meats and other edibles.

Among those who came down on the Acushnet and watched the landing were Agent Whiton of the Steamboat Company, who superintended the transportation of provisions from the cutter, and E. F. Locke, superintendent of the United States Fisheries station at Woods Hole.

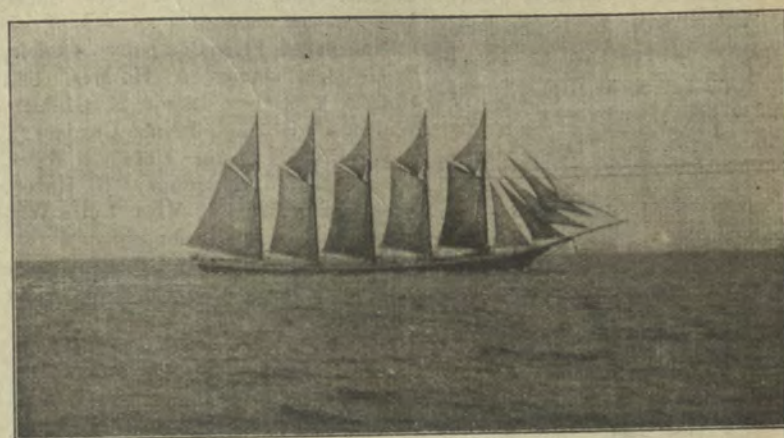
John W. Dalton, representative of the Boston Globe, was there. Dalton is known far and wide as the able descriptive writer of ice-packs, freeze-ups and other similar events which sometimes do happen—able and staunch friend of the life-saving service—a supporter of the Sherwood dollar-a-day bill for everybody—a good fellow anyway you take or find him.

There also came "Charlie" Ward, representative of the Boston Herald—famous as having been the bearer of the first news to the outside world of the disaster to steamer Portland in 1898.

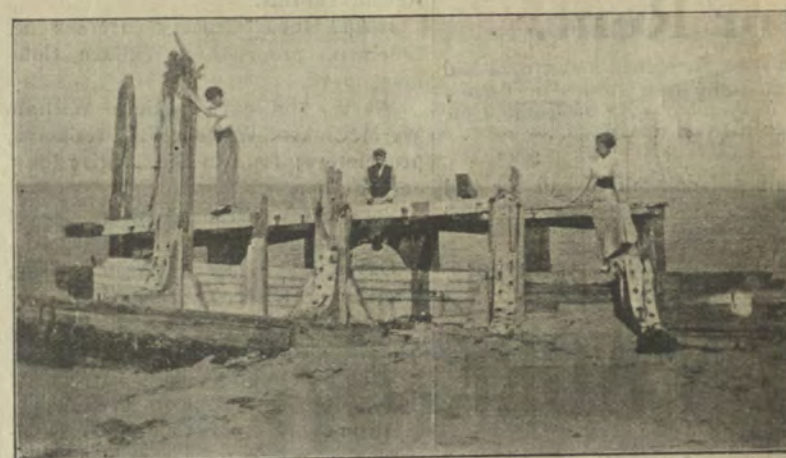
Nelson, of the New Bedford Standard, also came along to add his touch of color to the stories to be printed in the daily press. This was Nelson's first experience in the Nantucket ice-fields and word from New Bedford states that his teeth are still chattering.

And last, but not least, came Henry Gatz Haddon, the genial manager of the Marthas Vineyard Telegraph Company, and one of the best friends Nantucket could wish for. It was largely through Mr. Haddon's efforts that such a large stock of provisions were placed aboard the cutter, for his company's cable got in touch with the local business men, found what necessities they were running low of, and Haddon did not rest easily again until they were aboard the cutter.

Captain Wiley, Lieutenants Gray and Harvey, and Master's Mate Robinson—the gentlemanly and efficient officers of the Acushnet—did their utmost to make the passage a pleasant one for those on board, even though the mission upon which they had been sent was not in their regular line of duty.



The George P. Hudson sailing to her doom on the afternoon of Saturday, July 11, 1914. Six hours later the vessel was sunk off Round Shoal.



A portion of the Hudson on the beach at Quidnet.

Destroyed by Fire at Quidnet.

The four-room bungalow at Quidnet, known as the "Wild Goose" and owned by Mrs. Morris Parrish of Philadelphia, was destroyed by fire early Thursday morning, together with its contents. Mrs. Rose Forbes, who came down on Tuesday to prepare the bungalow for the coming of Mrs. Parrish for her usual spring outing next week, was the only occupant of the building and she escaped through the bedroom window.

Mrs. Forbes went over to Quidnet on Wednesday and built a fire in the kitchen and also another in the open fireplace in the living-room. She retired that evening and everything seemed to be all right at the time. About five o'clock the next morning, however, she was awakened by the crackling of flames and the smell of smoke. Realizing that the place was on fire she opened the door into the living-room and saw that the house was a roaring furnace. Quickly dressing, she made her escape through the window and summoned help from the neighbors, but the building and its contents were doomed to destruction, nothing being saved from the flames.

1912

April 22, 1916

In Wild West Costume.

A man who promises to be one of the most picturesque members of the summer colony at Nantucket this season arrived in the city last evening, en route for the island, clad in wide sombrero, corduroy coat and trousers, heavy riding boots, clanging spurs, a roll of thousands of dollars in "yellow backs," a cartridge belt with several rounds of ammunition, a heavy Colt revolver that was the wonder of all who saw it, and lastly, but of by far the greatest importance to him, his companions for the summer months—three beautiful western ponies. The saddles which he had to throw over their backs were also of wonderful make, each of them being ponderous affairs, loaded down with silver trappings.

The man's name is C. H. T. Thompson and he hails from somewhere in the wilds of Wyoming—a ranchman by occupation, and one who has been very successful, too—and a very quiet and interesting person. As he rode through the streets in his make-up of the western plains, he was the cynosure of eyes from every direction, and more than one observer wondered what his business here could be. It was thought by those who had seen him leading his ponies that he was a horse trader, and this opinion became quite general. Inquiry at the stable of William D. Richards, where he put up his horses for the night, brought forth the information that the horses were for his own use while at Nantucket, and Mr. Thompson himself felt quite aggrieved when informed of the impression that had gotten abroad concerning him.

He was far from a horse-trader, he maintained, and while there might be money enough in New Bedford to make him part with his horses, he said that he had not seen it as yet. One of his ponies, "Bess," he says he will never part with, and he tells with a great deal of pride of the speed and endurance of the little pony, and of the wagers that he has won in various tests.

Mr. Thompson visited Nantucket a couple of years ago, making a brief stop at that time, and he was so much attracted by the island that this year he has hired a cottage there for the summer, and has had a barn erected in rear of it in which to quarter his ponies. He has no family, and comes here alone, but he cares for little other company than his horses, and says that he anticipates a mighty pleasant time at the island. Failing health is the cause of his trip to a spot on the ocean, and he is of the opinion that the change of atmosphere is what is needed to brace him up.

To see him on the back of one of his ponies, cartridge belt at his waist, and his wide sombrero pulled down over his eyes, one would think him a genuine cow-puncher from way back yonder in the bad lands. Talk with him, however, and the illusion is quickly dispelled. He is a ranchman, but he owns the ranch and in his manner is quiet and unassuming. The fact that he has come clear across the continent arrayed in his costume of the plains, he explains by the fact

that shortly after he started east, his hostler was taken sick and Mr. Thompson did not want to entrust the care of his saddle-horses to any one else. So he played the role of hostler all the way across, and accordingly he wore a costume fitted for the work. And then, again, he is of the positive opinion that he will wear any costume that he likes, and he kind of prefers his present get-up, because it is the one to which he has been accustomed all his life.

While standing in Richard's stable this morning, he saw a bird dog that caught his fancy, so he bought it. Howard Ames owned it, and when Mr. Thompson offered him a \$20 bill for it, he handed over the dog.

Mr. Thompson arrived in the city last evening and left on the afternoon boat for Nantucket, together with his ponies and his newly acquired dog.—N. B. Standard, 4th.

Dr. Thompson is to occupy the cottage of Byron E. Pease, at Quidnet.

June 6, 1908

Is It a Mermaid?

Mr. William H. Norcross found a bone on the beach at Quidnet a short time since which is evidently a part of some marine animal the like of which has never before been seen among the numerous variety of marine curiosities that have been thrown upon our shores. It has eye-sockets, nose and mouth which resemble the human face as might be designed by a Japanese artist for decorating fans, with an outer rim of thicker bone somewhat in the shape of a horse-shoe. It may find its classification when the naturalist gets hold of it, but to the people of Nantucket who have seen it it is a curiosity which suggests the fabled mermaid.

June 25, 1906

Somebody Stole It.

L. E. Crowell recently purchased another lot of land at Quidnet and since his purchase is bitterly condemning the person who stole his well from the premises. The well produced delicious water and Friend Crowell was very enthusiastic over its qualities as a beverage. To his chagrin he found a few days ago that someone had visited the place and stolen the well—which, by the way, was a driven one and therefore easily removed.

March 27, 1909

"Rest-Haven"

Quidnet-by-the-Sea

P. O. Box 145, Nantucket, Mass.
Open June 1st to November 1st.
For rates address MRS. MARY F. MANN, M. D., or M. ELLA MANN, M. D.
The Drs. Mann will make appointments by telephone to visit patients in town at their office, corner Pine and School streets.
a20 3m

Apr. 24, 1901

Plane Landed at Quidnet.

Just about seven o'clock last Monday evening, a hydro-airplane landed on the beach at Quidnet, and caused considerable excitement among the residents in that hamlet. The plane contained two aviators who had lost their bearings, having been out all day and the weather shutting in so thick that they could not tell just where they were. When told that they had landed on Nantucket island they felt relieved and a few minutes later got under way again and headed across the sound on the proper course for Chatham.

June 8, 1918

Lieut. Charles Schauffler Wins Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lieut. Charles J. Schauffler, U. S. N. R., of Nantucket and Brookline, Mass., was one of two Massachusetts men decorated by Vice-Commander Kinkaid, commander of the Allied naval forces in the southwest Pacific, at fleet headquarters, on March 17.

Lieut. Schauffler, who is well known here as a resident of Quidnet, was awarded the distinguished flying Cross for persistently attacking enemy shipping as a patrol plane commander, despite adverse weather and powerful Japanese resistance.

Lt. Schauffler is a graduate of Amherst College, and was employed in Denver, Col., before entering the U. S. N. R. in 1940. He was commissioned in July, 1941. Mrs. Schauffler, the former Louise English, lives at 2 Clafin road, Brookline. A brother, Lt. Fred S. Schauffler, is also serving overseas. Their mother, Mrs. Edward Sanderson, is a resident of Quidnet, on Nantucket.

The many friends of the "Schauffler boys" will be delighted to hear of Lieut. Charles' splendid work in a part of the world so distant from his favorite island—Nantucket.

1944

Quidnet Modernized, Too.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:
I note by the last Inquirer and Mirror that a silver door-plate adorns one of the cottages in Siasconset. If your scribe will stroll over to Quidnet he will find at least two cottages so distinguished.

A. H. G.

June 22, 1920

Death of Rev. W. G. Studwell.

The Rev. William Guion Studwell, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Lakewood, Ohio, died in that city last Saturday. He was 54 years old and a native of Brooklyn. He had been rector of the Church of the Ascension since October, 1929.

Mr. Studwell, who was ordained in 1911, was at St. Mark's Church, Minneapolis, from 1911 until 1913; at St. Mark's, Chicago, from 1913 until 1917; at St. Thomas', Neenah-Menasha, Wisconsin, from 1917 to 1920, and at St. Thomas', Battle Creek, Mich., from 1920 until 1929.

Surviving is his wife, Mrs. Dorothea Bliss Studwell, whom he married in 1923, and two brothers, Dr. Harold F. Studwell, of Lynbrook, L. I., and Augustus Studwell, of Santa Barbara, Calif.

The deceased was well-known on Nantucket, having been a summer resident at Quidnet for many years.

March 23, 1940

Sachacha Pond in the Legislature.

The following bill, introduced by Representative Gardner in accordance with the vote of the town of Nantucket at its last annual meeting, was before the Committee on Fisheries and Game at the State House, on Tuesday of last week:

An Act to restrict fishing in Sesachacha Pond in Nantucket.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. No person shall set, draw or use any seine or net for taking fish in Sesachacha pond on the island of Nantucket.

Section 2. Any person violating this act shall, on conviction, pay a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars, with forfeiture of boats, nets and apparatus thus used, to be recovered before any court of competent jurisdiction for the use of the town of Nantucket.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Mr. Gardner stated that there was excellent white perch fishing in this pond, which was one of the attractions of the island for summer guests as well as for the native population who desired hook and line fishing. Without restrictions people use sweep seines in the pond and capture hundreds of barrels of these fish, which greatly impairs if not absolutely destroys the hook and line fishing. He further stated that there was some question as to whether this pond is one of the great ponds of the commonwealth over which the State holds jurisdiction, or whether it is excluded.

Mr. George H. Mackay stated that in his opinion the pond did not belong to the State, and while he was not there as a remonstrant against protecting the fish from being seined, he believed that the proprietors of the island of Nantucket had entire control of the pond, subject to such riparian rights as the owners of abutting lands may have acquired therein. He gave a comprehensive statement of the history of the rights which the proprietors of Nantucket acquired by purchase from the English crown, and also of the Indian purchases, down to the colonial act of 1693, which gave to the people of Nantucket all the rights acquired under the previous purchases, and that the ponds were especially named in the several grants referred to in this colonial act.

And furthermore that the proprietors had continuously exercised ownership over all the ponds of the island, as the act of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1841, allowing the town in its corporate capacity to accept ownership of a grant of Leng pond from the proprietors.

The statements and arguments of Mr. Mackay appeared to have a convincing force upon the committee, which made a report to the House asking to be relieved from the further consideration of the bill, and that it be referred to the committee on the judiciary.

The bill by request of Representative Gardner was allowed to come before the judiciary committee on Tuesday of this week, Mr. George H. Mackay and Allen Coffin, Esq., being present.

Mr. Gardner made a similar statement to that made before the fish and game committee.

Mr. Mackay laid a written statement of the history of the ponds of Nantucket before the committee for their subsequent consideration, which was of the same import presented to the other committee.

Allen Coffin, Esq., said he had read Mr. Mackay's written statement and believed it historically accurate and its conclusions logically deduced, although the legal points had never been adjudicated. If the facts were to go to the Attorney-General for a legal construction, as intimated by the chairman of the committee, he would submit a list of citations of the numerous acts passed by the Legislature in reference to the great ponds of Massachusetts in general, and of the acts concerning the ponds of Nantucket in particular.

The hearing was then closed, with the understanding that the committee would submit the facts involved to the Attorney-General for an opinion as to whether the State had such control of the great ponds at Nantucket as would enable the Legislature to enact the bill before them.

March 28, 1896

Outing at Quidnet.

Mrs. Elliot M. Brown entertained the Skwiporz at Wawpawdongo, Quidnet, on Friday last. On their arrival the guests sat down to a delicious clam chowder, to which they did ample justice. The time was spent in playing whist and hunting for Indian arrow heads, in which that region is said to abound, and some fine specimens were found. A bountiful supply of ice cream, cake and fruit was served, after which the company left for town having had a most delightful outing.

June 9, 1906

The Quidnet Boom.

Mrs. Roland Gardner and Mrs. George Pond, of Boston, have purchased of Mr. John Smith the house and land on the north shore of Sesachacha pond, adjoining the Mills property on the west, on private terms.

It is understood that several parties are looking for property in this section.

Sept. 11, 1895

"The Hermit of Nantucket."

The following poem on "The Hermit of Nantucket," appears in the files of "The Sea Gull," the West Tisbury church annual of thirty years ago. It was printed in a recent issue of the Vineyard News:



"THE HERMIT OF NANTUCKET."

On the island of Nantucket,
In the portion known as Quidnet,
Stands a dwelling rude;
Sheltered from the sea by sand hills,
Partially obscured by green sedge,
In its solitude.

Old and gray is its exterior,
Dull and dingy its interior,
Without ornament,
Save upon the walls some gilded
Names of vessels, washed and faded,
For embellishment.

Here beside the restless ocean,
Heeding not its wild commotion,
Lived a hermit grim!
None were found who knew his history,
But a veil of deepest mystery
Overshadowed him.

Filled with "milk of human kindness"
Was his heart, though lorn and joyless.
Many a darksome night,
Storm-tossed ones his roof would shelter:
Many a vessel came to anchor,
By his beacon light.

Year by year, the world aweary,
This recluse, with life so dreary,
Tireless vigil kept,
Till the pitying angel saw him,
Wrapped a shadowy mantle round him,
And the lone one slept.

And he nevermore did waken,
Wakened not to light his beacon
On the signal hill:
For beside the sea at Quidnet,
On the island of Nantucket,
He is sleeping still.

Then for relics came the curious
(Earth's great charm is the mysterious)
And their quest revealed,
In a nook beside the fender,
Cherished files of missives tender,
Carefully concealed.

These to memory lent assistance,
Called to mind a reminiscence
Of a village youth:
Famous he was not, but manly,
Stalwart, self-possessed, and comely,
On his brow was truth.

But misfortunes gathered round him,
Sorrow's icy finger touched him,
Him, so strong and brave;
Came one day the fatal tidings
That by shipwreck, all his earnings
Lay beneath the wave!

Then it was that one importunate,
Far less manly, but more fortunate,
Sought his promised bride:
Urged by an ambitious mother,
She broke her troth-plight with her lover.
Hope within him died.

Then the hapless, broken-hearted,
From his village home departed—
Whither was unknown.
Soon among the dunes at Quidnet,
On the island of Nantucket,
Lived this hermit lone.

JULY 24, 1920

See also "People."

Swimming Pool at Quidnet.

James Coghill, one of our popular summer and winter residents, has recently arranged for the construction of an indoor salt water swimming pool at his estate in Quidnet. Coming at this time, when there is a scarcity of employment on the island, the action of Mr. Coghill will be appreciated by the community. We understand the various parts of construction work are to be done by the following: Carpentry, Thomas Williams; plumbing, Thomas McGrath; masonry, Fletcher Ross; electrical work, Augustus E. Lake.

Dec. 28, 1940

Mr. Editor:

I read with lively interest the communication of A. T. Mowry, Esq., relative to protecting the perch in 'Sachacha pond, which was published in your issue of August 31st, and as an old Nantucket, and a regular summer visitor to our island home, I most heartily second Mr. Mowry's suggestion, that this one pond be spared for the pleasure of those who enjoy the healthful pastime of hook and line fishing. The fact that no less than twenty-seven fishing parties from town have visited 'Sachacha pond during the past two weeks, using hired teams, would appear to demonstrate that it will at least be of interest to the stable keepers to aid in a movement looking to the preservation of the only pond on the island where success in fishing is reasonably sure.

From personal knowledge, I can state that there is not to-day another pond in the New England states which can compare with 'Sachacha in the abundance of fish, and when that fact once becomes known abroad, large numbers of fishing enthusiasts will flock to our shores every summer, inuring to the benefit of the community at large, instead of centering the profits in the pockets of a very few men, by permitting indiscriminate seining, and the destruction of one of Nantucket's chief attractions. Upon these grounds I say "Amen" to Mr. Mowry's appeal for the protection of 'Sachacha. It is clearly to the interest of a large majority of the citizens to take this question up seriously.

Very respectfully,

SIDNEY STARRUCK.

'SCONSET, Sept. 2, '95.

Sudden Death.

Joseph Ray, a fisherman who had made his home at Quidnet for a number of years, met a sudden death last Saturday, while driving to town from the village. His team was noticed by Simeon Lewis near the milestone, about noon, the horse walking leisurely along with Ray's body hanging over the side of the wagon. Hastily stopping the outfit, Mr. Lewis found the man dead, his head and face having been badly lacerated by the action of the forward wheel as it revolved. The body was taken to the undertaker's, where it was viewed by Medical Examiner Grouard and then prepared for burial.

It is thought that while enroute to town, Mr. Ray was seized with a severe illness, for there was evidence of vomiting and a hemorrhage. He was stricken some distance from town, and it is thought the blow as he struck the wheel and whiffle-tree was the cause of his death.

Mr. Ray was about 63 years of age, and is survived by two sons, Bertest H. Ray, of Nantucket, and George M. Ray, of Milford, Mass., and one daughter, Mrs. George E. Grimes, of Milford, N. H. He also leaves three sisters residing in Nantucket—Mrs. Calvert Handy, Mrs. George E. Mooers and Mrs. Elizabeth Sylvia. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the residence of the latter, on Centre street.

Death of David Hagedorn.

David Oakley Hagedorn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hagedorn, of Santa Barbara, Cal., and Nantucket, died recently in Los Angeles, Cal., after a major cardiac operation. He was in his 28th year.

He attended Harvard and the University of California in Los Angeles. Considered an exceptionally brilliant mechanical engineer, he owned and operated the Hagedorn Engineering Company in Los Angeles.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his widow, Mrs. Rita Peck Hagedorn, and a 5-months-old daughter, Susan Marie, and two sisters.

The Hagedorns spent many summers at Quidnet, where the deceased was well known. Several months ago, the New York Post selected him as one of the five outstanding college-age men and women doing original work for their country during the war. He was the descendant of noted inventors, one of whom was Richard Hoe who completed the invention of the rotary press. Herman Hagedorn, father of the deceased, is a famous writer.

Camp Nantucket

Third Season

A Summer Camp for Boys, conducted by practical school men who are leaders in the educational and athletic activities of Boston. Send for booklet.

M. E. FITZGERALD,
Principal O. W. Holmes School,
Dorchester, Mass.

my28 2t

For Herman Hagedorn, the shore property at Quidnet to Col. and Mrs. Wm. L. Kimball of San Antonio, Tex. This attractive property is located on the east shore of the island. The house was constructed from one of the old humane society buildings which formerly stood at danger points along the ocean front of the island. Col. and Mrs. Kimball spent part of the summer of 1947 in Quidnet and will be welcomed there as permanent residents. Col. Kimball is a member of the Army Air Corps, stationed at Shaw Field, Sumter, S. C.

Life-Saving.

A circumstance has occurred this week which has fully demonstrated the utility and necessity of the new life-boat of the Humane Society at Quidnet. Several dories were out on Monday last, when the wind rose with such violence as to endanger the lives of the hardy fishermen who manned them, and it was with great difficulty that such skilful and powerful men as William H. Orpin and John Smith, succeeded in reaching the shore, they being entirely exhausted on arrival by their efforts in this struggle for dear life. Meanwhile, Mr. William Henry, a man more advanced in years, was unable to make head against the force of the gale, and his little dory went off like a mere cockle-shell on the waters. It was at once perceived that he was in imminent danger of going on the Rip, in which case, his fate would be inevitable. The gallant boatmen of the village had no idea of seeing him perish without a noble attempt to save him, and here the eight-oared boat of the Society came into play, and was found invaluable. She was at once manned by a stout crew, who, after a hard struggle, succeeded in saving Mr. Henry and his dory, and bringing them safe to land. The boat is a very fine one, costing, we understand, about five hundred dollars, and was furnished for this station, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. F. C. Sanford, whose interest in the subject is well known. The case to which we have called attention is abundant proof of the policy of placing her where she is, and shows that the money was well expended. The crew manning the surf-boat, were as follows: Alexander Bunker, J. Fisher, Charles S. Norcross, William H. Norcross, John B. Norcross, Oliver C. Chadwick, Frank P. Chadwick, Joseph Francis, and Washington Chase.

The Late Richard Ray

Richard Irving Ray, who passed away recently at Beryn, Md., was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bertest H. Ray of Nantucket, born on the 21st of September, 1907. He graduated from Nantucket High School in the Class of 1925.

Soon after he enlisted in the aviation branch of the Army and was stationed at Bolling Field, Washington, for a year, after which he retired from aviation. He then became a salesman for the Cadillac and LaSalle Company for four years; was with the J. & S. Laundry at Hyattsville, Md., for eight years; and at the time he was stricken ill was foreman of the final assembly department of the Engineering & Research Corporation at Riverdale, Md.

Besides his parents, the deceased is survived by a sister, Mrs. Oscar B. Eger, also of Nantucket.

The remains were brought to Nantucket for interment in the family lot in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Funeral services in the Episcopal Church were conducted by the Rev. Daniel Bennett.

Beat the Record.

The largest catch of perch made this season at Sesachacha pond was that of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Lobb, of New York, who caught 479 in four and one-half hours, on Thursday last. A greater number have been caught in one day, but never by so small a party. The fish were of fairly good size, two weighing over one pound each. Mr. and Mrs. Lobb leave for Newport this morning.

"WHERE IS QUIDNET?"

Some forty years ago, when ocean steamers were few in number and their trips far between, one of the largest and fastest then on the transatlantic route—we think it was either the Great Britain or the Great Western—was discovered and boarded by some of our fishermen, off the east side of our island, and supplied with a pilot. She had wandered a little from her true reckoning, owing to thick weather, and her commander, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, was somewhat startled at suddenly finding himself in such dangerous proximity to unknown shores. When the fishermen, in their small boat, came alongside, he asked anxiously what the name of the place was, and was answered, "Quidnet." "Quidnet!" he repeated, with some show of astonishment, "Where is that? It isn't down on any of Her Majesty's charts." No, verily, it was not; neither, we presume, was Wauwinet nor Sesachacha nor 'Sconset. But the great world is finding out where these localities are, and putting their natural advantages to good use. 'Sconset, which was in our juvenile days so far, far away over the moors, is now accessible by railroad, and her name is becoming famous even in the cities of the Great West. Pilgrims from far and near gather in multitudes at her shrines, and she is fast asserting her dignity as a postal station and a municipality. She has sent forth exploring parties into the wilderness, searching for places and things unique and beautiful, and they have been successful in their quest. Surveyors are mapping out the ground all along the bank on our eastern shore, the noise of building mechanics is heard throughout the land, and ere long the bluff is to be crowned with beautiful villas all the way up to the Haulover.

The march of improvement appears now to extend in that direction, invading those regions known as Plainfield and Squam, and promises to invest with new life and beauty a part of our island which has been hitherto a comparative *terra incognita*. Land in that section becomes day by day more valuable, and is now held at handsome prices. The number of summer residences is steadily increasing, and the light-house at Sankoty, shedding its beneficent beams far out over the roaring Atlantic, is no longer to stand alone—the only conspicuous work of human skill for miles on our eastern coast. 'Sconset, Sankoty and Wauwinet as salient points in the line, are destined to be known and quoted throughout the length and breadth of the continent, and it is not too much to expect that even Quidnet may some day find a place on Her Majesty's chart.

For the Inquirer and Mirror.

SANKATY HEAD, Dec. 8, 1884.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Presuming that at this season of the year fish stories are in order, I send a statement of a recent catch of Mr. J. H. Norcross, of Sachacha. On Saturday, Dec. 6th, between the hours of 6.45, A. M., and 1.30, P. M., Mr. Norcross caught and landed 503 codfish. Up to Dec. 6th he had launched his dory twenty-eight times, and made a total catch of 3,969 cod, all taken with hand line, and without assistance. I think this is unequalled at the east end of the island, and in these days of championship fairly places him at the head.

B. F. B.

Camp Nantucket for Boys.

JULY and AUGUST. Expert men teachers; salt and fresh water boating, bathing and fishing; tutoring; limited number. Apply to M. E. FITZGERALD, Master Oliver Wendell Holmes School, Dorchester, Mass. my16 1m

Two Prominent Writers Spend Summers At Quidnet

By CARLTON SINGLETON

Poet Herman Hagedorn Terms Retiring 'Ghastly Business'

A little house nestled in a few pines at the very top of "Sunset Hill" in Quidnet is the preferred home of poet, biographer, novelist and part time carpenter Herman Hagedorn who is probably best known for his poem "The Bomb That Fell On America."

This is not a retirement home. "Retiring is a ghastly business," says Mr. Hagedorn, "Life is too exciting to retire. There's too much still to do." He did say, however, that "if I do retire I can imagine no better place than Nantucket." Seated in his living room, his tall athletic figure belying his 66 years, Mr. Hagedorn seemed, indeed, like a man who has too much to give the world to think of retiring.

"My family and I love and have always loved Nantucket," he said. "We came here first in 1924 and have been here at some time of every year since. Soon after we first came we bought about 50 acres including shorefront from Captain Billy Norcross. He was a fine man, a man of great dignity who would have been at home in any level of society. The land included the old Humane Society building which we converted into a home. It became the home for all of Quidnet in those days — a regular community center. We used to have parties at which everyone from 3 to 73 would attend. Frank Thurston who died just recently was an old time fiddler and knew all the dances and all the calls. Captain John Norcross and Mrs. Norcross used to lead us in elaborate square dances."

"Cap'n John," Mr. Hagedorn recalled, "introduced me to at least one Nantucket saying I'd never heard before. He spoke of a person, referring to a shrewd lawyer who had been mixed up in some unsavory deal, as a 'sooner'. When I asked him what he meant he replied that the man was a 'sooner' because he'd sooner be wrong than right."

"In those days we even had our own newspaper. The children, — there were always flocks of children — wrote and hand typed a weekly sheet they called the Quidnet Quiz and then posted it in a shack we used for a post office one Summer."

House Has History

"This house," Mr. Hagedorn went on, "has quite a history. The second year we were here I needed a study. I bought an abandoned hencoop which was only about five by 16 feet and used that. The neighbors all called it the 'University.' The next year I needed a secretary and my son a tutor, so we combined the offices in the person of a boy named Kila Faus who was a Pennsylvania Dutchman. He was an amazing chap. When he finished school he went to France where he taught in a high school. We used to see him occasionally during our trips abroad but we hadn't seen or heard from him in a number of years until last Summer when I picked up a Saturday Evening Post and found a long article about our Kila Faus. He had become second secretary of the American Legation in Paris and over a period of years had helped out so many Americans that he was known as their best friend in Paris."

"But anyway," said Mr. Hagedorn, coming back to his topic, "the chicken coop, was enlarged, another room added and placed on the bluff where James Coghill's home is now, became his quarters. The sea encroached and we had to move it back the next year. Then some years later we sold the land under the house so moved it up here."

The Hagedorn dwelling is now in a beautiful spot. Seated in the living room the sea can be seen out of one plate glass window and by a turn of the head Nantucket town is seen across the moors through another plate glass window. "The sunrises are magnificent," Mr. Hagedorn exclaimed, "Just before sunrise on a clear morning there is a curious broad green stripe across the horizon that is glorious to see."

Since moving the house up the hill, the owners have added a kitchen and bath wing and are now putting in a heating system so that they can use the house at any time of year. Mr. Hagedorn has spent a great deal of time this Summer, adding a guest room to his garage, whence comes his fourth occupation as part-time carpenter. The project shows that its architect is in-

genious as well as poetic by its use of a sliding door in the bath to save room and the installation of a bunk bed hung on a pulley and counterbalanced to fold flat against the wall when not in use.

But it is as a writer that Mr. Hagedorn's true genius is best expressed. His "The Bomb That Fell On America" has been called the most eloquent and striking thing written about the atomic bomb and its effects on the American mind and soul.

Published Own Book

"I had to publish that myself," the poet related. "None of the good publishers would touch it. I had a very small first printing since I couldn't know whether it would sell. Then Dorothy Canfield Fisher reviewed it very favorably and I ordered another printing. This went on through several printings since I could never be sure how many I would need. Finally a publisher did take it over and the book has continued to do well."

"Do well" is a misnomer. "The Bomb That Fell On America" has gone through many printings and several editions since it was first published. It has been printed in foreign countries and is now being translated into German. In connection with the German translation, Mr. Hagedorn had an amusing experience.

He said "I was sent the proofs of the translation and asked to approve. I called on my rather rusty German and made corrections as they were needed. Some American slang is hard to translate and the woman who had done the work was a rather pendent soul, so found lots to change. I finished the work and sent it back only to receive the answer that I was to accept the translation as was or not at all since my German was not literary. I replied, of course, that I was trying to say something, not write literary German. The translation now is being done by someone else."

Nantucket remained uppermost in Mr. Hagedorn's mind throughout the interview since his imminent departure kept intruding itself. Mr. Hagedorn is and has been for thirty years executive secretary of

the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Association. He has an agreement with them that allows him about six months a year to do his own writing. He has been there this year since June 15 and has to go back very shortly. April or May of next year will see them once more on the Island, Mr. Hagedorn declared.

As a biographer the writer is best known for his work on the life of Theodore Roosevelt although he has written of General Leonard Wood, Robert S. Brookins, Edwin Arlington Robinson and Albert Schweitzer.

His books of verse include "A Troop Of The Guard," "The Great Maze," "Ladders Through The Blue," and "Combat At Midnight." He is also well known for juvenile fiction, having written many books which are widely used in schools.

Oct. 8, 1948



OPENING AN ISLAND POND IN THE OLD TIME WAY.

The Selectmen have authorized the opening of Sesachacha Pond, the work to be done within the next few weeks. A bulldozer is to be used to dig the channel. Such a procedure is in direct contrast to the old style manner of opening an island pond. A team of horses with a scoop were then used to hollow out a shallow trench about six feet wide. Then men with shovels continued the trench, digging well into the pond. The flow of water was utilized to gradually deepen out the narrow channel, so that the pond actually opened itself.



The trench was kept narrow so that when the pond water reached the ocean it would be running at a velocity which kept the sand from forming a bar at the passage through the surf.

For Sale or To Let at Quidnet

A NEW and up-to-date cottage, of nine rooms, built last season. Four sleeping rooms, corner fire-place, broad piazzas overlooking lake and ocean, good fishing at all times, fresh and salt water bathing. Fully furnished, including piano. Price for season \$150. Apply at store of Covil & Pease, Main street. apl23 tf

1904

How IS THIS FOR HIGH HOOK?—On Sunday last James H. Norcross landed at Quidnet three hundred codfish from one tide's fishing, and on two tides the following day caught three hundred and eighty-eight, making a total of six hundred and eighty-eight fish in three tides.

1884

A Quidnet man plies his vocation of fishing under difficulties. We refer to Mr. James Norcross, who is suffering with a large boil on one wrist and a wound from a fish-hook on the thumb of the other hand. His brother tows his dory to the fishing ground, and despite his afflictions, his catch of codfish is the largest of any fisherman's at the east end of the island.

Nov. 14, 1885

The Chapel house in Quidnet, purchased by Mr. Mills, of Detroit, is being fitted up in first-class shape by Mr. James H. Gibbs.

Mr. James Norcross has a field of cabbages in Quidnet that are remarkable for their very large growth. There are three hundred dozen in the field.

Sept. 20, 1884

The fishermen at Quidnet and Wauwinet have not been delayed by heavy surf this week, as have their fellows at 'Sconset. On Wednesday, from Sesachacha to the Haulover opening, there were forty dories out after cod, while at 'Sconset only two could be floated, and they were obliged to land at Quidnet.

Marine Disaster.

Sunday afternoon a report spread through the town that a ship was coming ashore at the east end of the island, and immediately there was activity among the wreckers. Quite a number went to Quidnet, and others drove to different points along the shore. A vessel was plainly discernible outside of Bass rip, apparently at anchor, and laboring heavily. The fore and mainmasts had been cut away. The vessel was directly abreast of Sankaty light, and appeared to be but a short distance from Bass rip. A crew was immediately made up to man the Humane Society's boat at Quidnet, as follows: William H. Norcross, James Kiernan, Walter S. Chase, James H. Norcross, John P. Taber, Charles C. Taber, Arthur Norcross, John B. Norcross, John Williams, jr., Charles W. Cash, Joseph P. Gardner, and George W. Norcross. It was at first proposed to start before nightfall, but after consultation with Keeper Chase of the Coskata station, who was also waiting an opportunity to launch his boat, it was decided imprudent to venture, and the men impatiently awaited the approach of morning. They launched the boat at 3.45 o'clock, heading northward to the wind and tide, and about 5 o'clock crossed the north end of the rip. The tide was sweeping them so fast to the south that it became evident they could not reach her, and it was decided to run inside the rip and anchor, and await the turn of tide. The weather was very cold, however, and the men felt it was best to return to the shore, which was done, and learning that the Coskata boat had gone to her, they abandoned further efforts.

Keeper Chase and his crew left the beach at Coskata at 3.30 Monday morning, setting sail and running off shore six miles, when sail was taken in and the boat allowed to drift while signals were burned and soon answered by those on the vessel, by which means her position was determined, and the course was then laid for her. She was boarded about 5 o'clock.

It proved to be barkentine Western Belle, Capt. Sweeny, from Singapore for Boston, with a cargo of tapioca, sago, gambier, and rattan. The vessel was leaking. Capt. Sweeny had run in to make the South Shoal lightship (which was off her station) and struck. The wind was blowing a hurricane, and he headed north to get in the lee of the island, and struck Bass rip. The anchor was dropped, but did not hold, the gale being terrific, and shortly after noon on Sunday the fore and mainmasts were cut away to prevent going on to Great Rip, which was but a short distance to leeward when the station crew reached her.

Tug Mercury went to her assistance in the afternoon, in response to a telegram from Nantucket, and about 5 o'clock got underway with her for Vineyard Haven, Keeper Chase and his men remaining on board to relieve the vessel's crew at the pumps. At Vineyard Haven a steam pump was put on board, and at 6 o'clock Tuesday morning the tug steamed away with the vessel for Boston. The life-saving crew left her off Great Point, reaching their station at 2 p. m.

Some anxiety for the safety of the Coskata men was felt here, Monday until their boat dropped astern as the tug took the vessel in tow.



Original woodcut by Alex Sevearns

SCENE AT QUIDNET BEACH, JANUARY 22, 1893.

After being isolated for two weeks, the islanders were happy to learn by telegraph that steamer Nantucket was to leave Woods Hole on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 6:30 a. m. The steamer was sighted by Billy Clark from the South Tower soon after 10 o'clock, and Town Crier Hull's horn announced the fact it would make a landing at Quidnet. There was a great procession to the east end—sleighs, carts, pungs and sleds—and some 200 townspeople. A whaleboat manned by James H. Norcross, Jonathan Freeman, Marcus Howes and Daniel Brayton, under W. H. Norcross was launched and took out passengers and mail—returning with equal cargoes.

Jan 7, 1900

March 26, 1892

James Coghill House At Quidnet Has Many Ingenious Features

By Carleton Singleton

There is a house on Nantucket Island which has elicited comments ranging from fabulous, an Aladdin's lamp structure, fantastic, a plumber's nightmare, ingenious—or a one man's war against the elements. It is the residence of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Coghill at Quidnet.

The buildings include the main house, guest house, a large garage building which also houses sleeping quarters and a swimming pool; and finally a structure with a well equipped shop, storage room and recreation room. All are built on a tract of land extending from the rutted road to Wauwinet and the ocean on which Mr. Coghill owns about ninety feet of shorefront.

The main house is built about thirty yards from the ocean atop a small sand dune looking out towards Spain. It juts out just enough to afford excellent views both North towards Squam and South towards Sankaty.

One enters the main house from the ocean side across an open porch, from which the view is magnificent, through either of two glass-enclosed and glass-roofed entrance halls, both of which open into the living room. This room is pine panelled and dominated by a huge white brick fireplace which is flanked by a pair of double hung plate glass corner windows. The unique feature of this arrangement is that the fireplace is on the ocean side so that those occupying the usual fireside group—sofa and twin chairs—are not deprived of an ocean view. Seated in either chair, one has the illusion of being miles at sea since no beach is visible—just ocean and sky. The view at night with the moon rising out of the sea has to be seen to be believed.

Off the living room to the right is the dining room which also has an ocean view and in which the Coghill's collection of glass and silver is displayed. An unusual feature is a corner cupboard which has glass shelves so that a light, concealed in the middle, lights up all the glass in the cabinet, thereby showing off the pieces to the best advantage. A detail here which illustrates Mr. Coghill's ingenuity is a clock which is built into the panelling, leaving only its numerals visible.

From the dining room across a little hall which leads to the kitchen is a small study which is planned so that it could, if necessary, take care of the overflow from the dining room for a large dinner party. This room, too, is panelled and looks out towards the West. Off the study is a small office which is completely glassed in, roof as well as walls. Occasionally the room traps too much sun. For such an eventuality, there are curtains between the double glass of the roof, which can be drawn to act as awnings.

Kitchen Is All Electric

The kitchen is all electric and has two refrigerators. Mr. Coghill feels that this is better than one large one since it provides for a more convenient division of foods to be stored. One of these has a small frozen food compartment which is reached through a separate door.

The bedroom is quite large and is distinguished by a huge bougainville vine which stays in bloom year round, even in January or February when there is snow on the ground. The seeming contradiction is explained by the presence of a conservatory built against the house on this, the South side and continuing around the West side. It is built on two levels, one the same as the bedroom and the other a little lower and leading outside to the driveway. Mrs. Coghill is a zealous gardener and the conservatory is filled with beautiful and exotic plants always.

The bedroom has two baths, one of which is on the ocean side so that it can be entered directly after a dip in the ocean, obviating the need for sand being tracked over the house. The other bath has a large cedar closet opening into it which is heated and kept dry by a very ingenious use of the usually wasted heat from a hot water heater. The heater is just off the bathroom and a fan blows the heat into both the bathroom and the cedar closet. The Coghills are thus able to protect their belongings against dampness and mold, always a threat in a house so near the surf. The hot water in this boiler is used in yet another clever way since it is piped into the radiator in the other bathroom by means of an electric pump whenever the thermostat in that room calls for heat. This is particularly valuable in the Spring and Fall when the main heating system is not working.

With these five rooms alone, Mr. Coghill would have one of the most unusual houses in Nantucket but we have only started our tour of this fabulous establishment. When we go back to the living room, we have another surprise in store for us. Against the west wall of this room, there stands a bench. By taking hold of one of its arms the whole wall revolves, displaying a staircase. When we go down these stairs, it is as though we were entering another world. We are in a formal library which looks as though it had been transplanted from the most formal of town houses. Its focal point is another huge fireplace which is connected so that heat, instead of going up the chimney, is piped upstairs to the main living room.

Off this library is a large bar. Here the illusion is marine since there is a sloping beamed ceiling, mahogany paneling and a row of ship's portholes. Underneath the

bar is a small electric refrigerator, a sink, and two taps, one for draught beer and the other for soda water. Connected to the bar is a small but well equipped kitchen and bath. The bar can be reached from the garage as well as the library and may be entered by tunnel directly from the beach.

20-Foot Tunnel

The tunnel is about 20 feet long and at the beach end we find another complete set of living quarters. To the left, there is another small but completely equipped kitchen which is connected by a sliding panel to a small glass-enclosed dining alcove. This alcove opens up by means of sliding glass panels into a 20 foot square section which is almost directly on the water. On the other side of the tunnel entrance is a small bunk room, fitted up to look exactly like a ship's cabin. It has bunks and portholes from which nothing can be seen but water and sky. The room is panelled in mahogany and has a curved ceiling and skylight to complete the illusion.

Off the bunk room is a large tiled bath. There is a small window over the tub facing the ocean and by an ingenious use of mirrors, a person bathing there has a very good view of the sea. The roof of this room is made of double sheets of plate glass, the bottom one of which is rippled to admit light put through which one cannot see.

Between the sheets of glass there are curtains of parachute silk which can be drawn to use as awnings. Ventilation for the room as well as the draft for a coal stove in the galley are obtained through a pair of hollow stone posts which form part of the gateposts on the summit of the bluff above.

The remainder of the space under the main house is taken up by a garage, heating equipment, a frozen food storage space and a generating unit for standby electric power in case of power failure.

Across the drive is the guest house which Sir Oliver Frank, British Ambassador, occupied last month. In the center of the house is a very comfortable living room with large glass areas open to both the sea on the East and the sunsets on the West. There is a large double bedroom opening off the living room which has its own bath and dressing closet.

On the other side are two smaller bedrooms, one fitted with a single bed and the other with two beds which convert into divans. This bedroom also has a wall which swings up to form a table and reveals at the same time a hiding place for two folding chairs which are fitted in between the studs. Opening into both this room and the living room is the kitchen which is completely equipped even to another frozen food cabinet.

The compressor for the refrigerator is located in the guest house garage so the small space available for a refrigerator is completely usable for food storage. Atop the living room reached by an outdoor staircase is a walled-in sun deck which is furnished with chairs and chaise longues.

Has Heated Pool

Across from the living room stands a large building containing garages and a servant's room and bath and at its west end a large glass-enclosed and heated swimming pool. The pool measures 15 by 30 feet, has a depth graduated from 4 to 8 feet and is supplied by salt water pumped directly from the ocean. During the Winter, the pool can be heated by means of copper pipes along its sides. The room is roofed with double panes of glass placed in between which is a six inch air space. On sunny days, the temperature between the panes averages 130 degrees. Mr. Coghill has used this heat to advantage by placing a copper coil in the space and connecting it to a well-insulated hot water tank. Thus there is a plentiful supply of warm water to supply the shower, placed adjacent to the pool.

At the ridge of the roof, there is a perforated copper pipe through which water can be forced, sending a sheet of water cascading over the glass to perform the quadruple function of cleaning the glass, cooling the room, insuring privacy and finally watering the privet hedge planted outside the pool.

Adjoining and under the same glass roof but separated from the pool by a glass partition is a small solarium having a beach sand floor, lounging furniture and all kinds of plants including a tree-sized rubber plant.

A recent improvement in the pool itself has been the laying of three inches of cork insulation on the bottom and sides of the pool which was then recovered with cement. This, Mr. Coghill feels will keep the pool water at a comfortable temperature no matter how cold the ground gets beneath and around it. This has meant, however, that a large octopus which used to leer at swimmers from the bottom of the pool and even seemed to move his eyes and tentacles has had to be eclipsed since he was put painted on the bottom of the pool. Mr. Coghill is planning to replace him very soon.

The final building is a combination large-beamed ceiling recreation room which was furnished as an extra living room for the use of Ambassador Frank during his re-

over

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cent stay, additional garage space and a large workshop set up with benches for carpentry, painting and plumbing. Therein also is a sizeable air compressor which can be used to pump up tires or, hooked in with the water system, to supply added pressure for watering gardens. Most ingenious of all, it can be used to supply added draft for a reluctant coal range.

The Coghill residence was begun in 1936 and reached its present size in 1943. It will probably never be finished, however, since Mr. Coghill is constantly devising improvements and additions.

Night Fire Destroyed Coghill Residence at Quidnet.

In the most disastrous fire in recent years, the handsome residence of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Coghill, at Quidnet, was completely destroyed by flames on Wednesday evening. The large dwelling, with its many elaborate interior appointments, fully equipped with modern conveniences and many unique devices, its furnishings, including numerous collectors' items, its library and conservatory, were entirely consumed by the flames.

During the hours from 6:10, when the blaze was first discovered, until 8:00 o'clock when the kitchen section was finally enveloped by the flames, the fire raged out of control, with the firemen unable to combat it, due to the lack of any water supply for the pumpers. The feeling of helplessness was never more apparent—and with the Atlantic ocean within a few yards, the very nature of this supply made it impossible to utilize it.

Mr. and Mrs. Coghill had just returned to the island from New York, and, according to Mr. Coghill, the blaze originated in the sleeping quarters, and is thought to have been caused by a short circuit in a radio which had been placed on a dressing table. This, however, is only a conjecture, and the true cause of the incipient blaze may never be definitely determined.

Two pumpers responded from the Central Fire Station, immediately upon the receipt of the alarm, and the number 1-4-6 was sounded on the fire horn. When the apparatus arrived, after making the run in excellent time considering the tortuous curvings of the road, the blaze had gained a tremendous headway.

The booster lines of the pumpers went into action quickly, but the odds were too great. The blaze had mushroomed with incredible speed throughout the southwest section of the house—and as soon as the fire broke out into the open, the high wind fanned it into a roaring mass of flame.

Within fifteen minutes, the entire house became an inferno, with red and yellow flames sweeping high into the air, the sparks and thick, heavy black smoke rising like a pall. The crackling roar of the sea of flame grew louder as the wind from the south-east grew stronger. The hissing

roar of the fire, coupled with the sweep of the wind and the noise of the surf on the beach just below, made the spectacle at once grotesque and eerie.

By 9:00 o'clock, all that remained of the handsome and extensive structure was a huge mass of blazing, red refuse, made doubly weird by the two chimneys which rose high in the air and the scorched pine trees which huddled about the fiery knoll.

A piece of apparatus had come over from 'Sconset to lend possible aid, but there was nothing within the power of the firemen who were first on hand, or who arrived shortly after, to prevent the complete engulfing of the place by the flames.

The guest house and a large garage—which also houses sleeping quarters—were saved by the fact that the wind was blowing toward the beach, and the firemen stood by with booster lines to wet down the surrounding trees, which, once ablaze, could easily have spread the flames to these buildings.

The "all out" signal was sounded at 10:00 p. m., but the department had relays of men on hand during the remainder of the night to guard against any possible spread of the fire from the ruins.

The Coghill residence was one of the most unique structures ever built on Nantucket. Situated on the east shore of the island, a few hundred yards to the north of Quidnet, it was built on a knoll over-looking the beach at a point where the shore formed a small head-land, thus affording a fine view toward Squam on the one hand and 'Sachacha on the other.

The main dwelling was started in 1936. Since that time, Mr. Coghill, a retired New York architect and investment broker, had added a variety of additions, both above ground and directly into the bluff. The most remarkable of these innovations, perhaps, was the beach house, reached by a 20-ft. tunnel from the main portion of the house. This addition was built practically into the surf, and contained a completely equipped kitchen and other living quarters.

The main house faced the ocean, with two glass-enclosed hallways leading into it from a large porch, the latter commanding the full sweep of the shore. From the entrance halls, one came into a large pine-panelled room, where a huge white fireplace was placed between a pair of heavy plate glass windows which commanded a sea-view most effectively.

The dining room was to the right and contained, among other items, an especially attractive display of old silver and glass. A corner cupboard with glass shelves contained a collection that showed to good effect with its unusual lighting.

A panelled study and a little hall were off the dining room, the hall leading to the kitchen. An office, with glass walls and roof, also occupied this portion of the house.

The kitchen was equipped with all manner of electric conveniences, and besides two refrigerators had a separate deep-freeze compartment.

On the south-west side were the bedrooms, two baths and a conservatory. The latter was built in two levels, the lower leading directly to the driveway, which in turn curved through a grove of pines.

One of the baths had a passageway leading under the bluff out to the beach. A large cedar clothes closet was situated just off the other bathroom. Both the baths and the closet were heated by an ingenious system designed by Mr. Coghill.

Perhaps the most unique of the many features of the dwelling was the "secret staircase," which led from the living room down into a library and a recreation room. By pushing at a bench at the further wall of the living room, the wall panels revolved, revealing a staircase leading down to the rooms below. In turn, the library and recreation room had passageways allowing egress to the garage or guest house or, through a tunnel, to the beach house.

The library, with its many valuable volumes, and the recreation-room with its varied collections, were both destroyed.

The two adjacent buildings, which contained a guest house and a garage, together with servants' quarters, etc., were not a victim to the blaze.

Damage is estimated at \$75,000, the highest loss in the last century, according to the Brock Agency, which held the insurance on the property.

An ironic feature of the fire was the fact that a large swimming pool, constructed a few years ago, had been drained a few days before, preparatory to being painted. This pool measures 15 by 30 feet, with a depth graduated from 4 to 8 feet, and is supplied by salt water pumped from the ocean. It was enclosed by glass, with copper piping along its sides.

Had this pool been filled, the firemen would have had a good chance to bring the flames under control, notwithstanding the terrific start it had gained by the time the pumpers had raced to the scene.

It was at the Coghill residence that the British Ambassador Sir Oliver Franks and Mrs. Franks and their two daughters spent the month of August of this year.

JANUARY 1, 1949.

State Police Officer Howard Bardsley did an excellent job directing the heavy traffic through Quidnet village during Wednesday evening's fire. As is usually the case a large number of cars went out to the scene, and as Quidnet's lanes are hardly adapted to such an avalanche of vehicles, it was not an easy task to keep the main highway open. Bardsley stationed himself at the junction of the paved road leading in to the village and the rutted road leading to Squam, where he kept the cars moving, and directed their owners as to places to park and thus be out of the way.

Surf Destroys Bulkhead

At Quidnet

Remainder of a bulkhead at the shorefront property of James Coghill at Quidnet, previously damaged in a storm a year ago, has been destroyed by the pounding of heavy surf whipped by Northeast winds in the storm of three weeks ago.

Mr. Coghill salvaged between 30 and 40 planks of the bulkhead which had been carried by the sea to the 'Sconset shore at Low Beach. Other heavy sections of the bulkheads, eight feet high and eight to 12 feet long containing two-inch planks spiked together, were also found on the Low Beach area but have not yet been removed.

Mr. Coghill said the pre-Easter storm eroded much of the built-up beach of Quidnet, straightening out the shore line considerably.

Beach front of the Kimball and Sanderson properties at Quidnet were also bitten off by the storm.

A house of Mrs. Daisy Parrish on the Bluff south of Sachacha Pond is now in a precarious position as result of the beach erosion and will have to be moved back to a safer area. And the Sankaty Beach Club which was 30 feet from the bank is now only 10 feet away after the storm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1950

Quidnet Modernized, Too.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

I note by the last Inquirer and Mirror that a silver door-plate adorns one of the cottages in 'Sconset. If your scribe will stroll over to Quidnet he will find at least two cottages so distinguished.

A. H. G.

POND FISHING.

CAPT. JOHN WILLIAMS has put a number of boats on the waters of Sesachacha pond, including sailboats, and is prepared to let the same and furnish parties with paraphernalia for fishing upon this most delightful sheet of water, which is the best fresh water fishing Nantucket affords. jy6-2m

New Home Of Mr. And Mrs. James Coghill At Quidnet Is A Gadgeteer's Dream House; Couple Lost Other House By Fire

By Elizabeth Singleton

On Nantucket's east shore where the northeasters lash furiously in Winter, often chewing away several feet of frontage, stands a gadgeteer's dream house. In a 1949 storm Mr. and Mrs. James Coghill lost a small beach house and their main residence by fire during the previous Winter. Consequently their new home, now nearly completed, overlooks the ocean from a respectful one hundred yards away.

A two-story house with front elevation facing west, it has one story on the east side facing the ocean. The large living room takes full advantage of its vista with four large picture windows. Two of them flank the fireplace, one on the north overlooks the grass terrace and the evergreens beyond, and the southern one affords a glimpse of the nearby studio. The remaining wall space is pine panelled. Built-in pine cabinets and radio have HL hinges such as are found in historic Nantucket homes.

Secretary A Bar

An old American secretary stands innocently in the middle of one book-lined wall, until its upper doors are opened to reveal a fully equipped bar concealed behind. Thus its modern fixtures and decoration do not conflict with the more formal style of the living room. Matching doors in the lower section of the "desk" disclose a revolving shelf arrangement where hors d'oeuvres may be conveniently placed for a party. The bar itself is a small pine-panelled room fully equipped with a small sink and refrigerator, built-in cabinets and shelves. Curtains, glasses and various accessories carry out a rooster motif.

Separated from the bar by a wall of glass brick is the model kitchen. White cabinets, green and white curtains and soft green walls impart a crisp freshness here. There are two electric freezers in the kitchen, a large 8-foot one for general use and a smaller 4-foot supplementary one which is used to store unexpected gift fish or to freeze ice cubes for entertaining. A large refrigerator and a push button stove complete the illusion of a home magazine advertisement.

Special Cabinets

However the room is not without its personal touches such as a neat spice cabinet which the owner designed and built for his wife and the handy pull out hamper which he adapted to a space too small for cabinets. Here too is a revolving cabinet for pans which spin around at the touch of a fingertip. Three double windows over the sink and electric dish washer overlook the west garden and a fourth window allows the same view from the ad-

joining dinette. Conveniently placed beside the dinette is another electric refrigerator and across from it is a small pantry, next door to a storage area through which rise the stairs leading up to the Captain's Walk.

And what a contrast in atmosphere this is! Downstairs from the large windows may be seen the owner's own domain—pines to the north and west, ocean to the east, and other buildings to the south. There is no hint of other homes anywhere, no suggestion of which particular shore this might be. But from the Walk—suddenly there are Sankaty Light and Sachacha Pond to the south and a magnificent view of breaking waves to the north at Squam Head. The cozy peaceful handful of houses which is Quidnet seems very close. It is a remarkable contrast—the "master-of-all-you-survey" feeling below and the warmth of a nearby tiny community visible from above.

Raised Observatory

The seclusion of the main level is welcome after a gusty trip aloft. The rather formal dining room with its handsome oval hooked rug has several unusual features which delight both owner and visitor. A three step elevation leads to the "observatory," a little lounge with a magnificent view of the spray and curving shore line at Squam. This unique room is panelled in walnut plywood but the ceiling has been done adivore, a French wood of the white mahogany family which appears to change color as one changes position. If one needed a conversational topic in addition to the Squam surf and the "observatory" itself, this chameleon panelling would certainly suffice. Descending the three steps again one glances in the corner china cupboard, getting a surprise view of the ocean through a mirrored panel. Mr. Coghill's study completes the northern part of the house.

The large master bedroom has the pleasant feature of cedar closets concealed at the heads of the beds, thus allowing more unbroken wall space. This spacious room is panelled in karina, also of the white mahogany family. The builder did much experimenting to get just the right "sun-on-the-waves" pattern for the Celotex ceiling, and it is a most pleasant variation on the traditional rough or smooth surface. The builder expanded the original plans five feet in every direction in order to achieve more advantageous cutting of wood. Incidentally, the power saw purchased for these cutting operations more than paid for itself in the bevelling of cabinets and other specialized jobs.

Ingenious Bath

Beyond this bedroom is a large well-equipped bath with a door to the beach path, and an outside faucet. What sand is not rinsed off at this faucet at least goes no further into the house than the bath, it is to be presumed. In the original plan there was to be a huge master bedroom which has since been divided to permit a private sitting room or morning room. This morning room, where Mrs. Coghill's chess table is permanently set up, has a unique attraction. The heated greenhouse is on three levels with the upper level adjacent to its windows. Thus when the greenhouse door is open on Winter mornings, a delicious fragrance will pervade the room.

There are five baths in the house, each with rubber tile floor in various shades—rust and gray, green and white, blue and white and others. Two of these are on the lower level, one as adjunct to the attractive guest room and the other to accompany the "card room." This little room can be used as a single guest room as well as a game room and was added practically as a mere excuse to utilize a new form of panelling called "etched wood."

This novel product results from running a moving roller with steel brush over fir plywood removing soft spots and leaving the harder wood in silhouette. A variety of stains is possible. After considerable experimenting Mr. Coghill used a thin white paint which gives a glow to the softer background. The ceiling too, was an experiment and copies the rubber tile floor—an "afghan" pattern as someone described it.

Two bath houses on this lower level, are nicknamed Green Girls and Blue Boys and make use of leftover tiles in an original design. Thin blue and green paint in true bathhouse style are responsible for the nicknames. In the south passageway near the game room may be found a small nook, containing an electric refrigerator, a small tile-covered shelf with extension telephone and a built-in cabinet above. On the shelf appears one tile from every tiled room in the house—an interesting and colorful record.

Game Room

The main part of the lower level is the thirty-foot square room housing the shop, the oil burner and a ping-pong table. This room has two central cement piers, one of which is pine-panelled like the inside wall. The other one has been boxed in a most ingenious manner. The side facing the fireplace is a seat, underneath it is a hollow space for long pieces of wood and the reverse side, facing the game table, contains most appropriately, two built-in "umpire seats." Sev-

eral screened port holes "at water level" are amusing features. Panelled doors on one wall open to show a set tub with hot and cold running water for washing paint brushes and similar tasks. The two-car garage has been made sufficiently long so that a Jeep may be stored behind a car.

For heating, the house is divided into a north zone, comprising the living rooms and a south zone which includes bedrooms and dressing rooms. Baseboard radiation is used in the former whereas the other radiators are of the convector type. They are all controlled electrically by thermostat and the water circulates by means of an electric pump. If heat is not required in one radiator the top vent is closed and instead of the radiator heating up it becomes a mere flow pipe with no heat loss.

Bougainville Vine

The gardens already bear testimony to Mrs. Coghill's "green thumb"—"green hand" would perhaps be more accurate. She has planted a bougainville vine in the lower level in the aforementioned greenhouse and the flagstone and lawn terrace has colorful asters and other Fall flowers along its retaining wall. Slightly above this terrace is a small rock garden. A large tree, perhaps an aleanthes, was brought in full-grown and is flourishing nicely—no mean accomplishment. Connecting east and west porches allow one to follow the sun or escape the wind at will. From the east porch it is only a step to a grass terrace which may also be reached from the living or dining rooms.

The quiet of this secluded spot is punctuated by the undertone of the surf and the rustle of the wind in the pines nearby. The tinkle of the small fountain must be welcome music on a hot day. Around the corner, an outside fireplace with the flu cut into the main chimney suggests barbecues to come. A huge rock was found on the site of the foundation and became the terminal of the stone wall.

Fire Precautions

Naturally in building his new house, Mr. Coghill has taken all types of precautions against fire. All the buildings have their own wells and pumping systems which may be used collectively or individually. When used together, the pumps supply almost five thousand gallons per hour at fifty pounds pressure, a handy reserve in case of emergency. Instead of one main power line there are now two. Inside the house, the protection seems foolproof. The most central location is the bar. Above its tiny sink, a three foot panel opens from ceiling height to show a fifty foot hose on a swivel, accessible either through the bar, for a fire in the north end, or through the closet for a southern conflagration.

In the garage below is a similar arrangement with 10 feet of hose, also on a swivel. At various points in the house may be seen attractive wall appurtenances which prove to be fire extinguishers rather than the light fixtures they resemble.

Praises Fire Dept.

Mr. Coghill feels strongly that had it not been for this automatic type of extinguisher, not only would he have lost his guest house through a previous undiscovered fire, but he would have suffered complete loss of contents as well as of building in the fire of 1948. He feels so sincerely that this "throw" type of extinguisher is reliable, simple and practical that he has written a commendatory letter to its manufacturer. This letter also praised the action of the Nantucket Fire Department in effectively salvaging furniture and valuables from the burning building.

So many new building materials and techniques have been developed in recent years that building a home can be a challenge and an adventure. The new Coghill house, like the old has given wide scope to the imaginativeness and creative ingenuity of its builder.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1950

DEATH OF THE QUIDNET RECLUSE.—

Fredrick F. Parker, well-known not only to our own people but to many thousands of visitors as the Quidnet Hermit, died at the Asylum in town on Saturday last in the eightieth year of his age. In view of his feeble condition and infirmities he was removed to that Institution a year ago by order of the town fathers, and has since continued to fail gradually until the end. We remember Mr. Parker as having been in our younger days a carpenter by trade, pursuing his business in a shop on South Water street, which was, we think, burned with others in the great fire of 1846. Though somewhat noted for his eccentricities he was a man of intelligence and possessed a large stock of general information, steady enough in his habits and earning a comfortable living. Impelled, as it seemed, only by an eccentric whim, he isolated himself from the haunts of men some twenty years ago, and took up his abode in a rude hut at Quidnet, where of late years he became an object of some interest to the numerous strangers who visited that quarter of the island. He was communicative enough, and always ready to talk with these visitors, many of whom made him small presents, thus helping him to eke out a living. He was sometimes seen on our streets, but did not remain long in town, always turning to his voluntary solitude, and even when stricken down by his infirmities a year ago, it was against his own protest that he was removed to a more comfortable home, as a measure of humanity. He spent much time in reading, and we understand he has left a collection of memoranda, which he sometimes talked of publishing in book form, and which may perhaps possess interest and value, though we know nothing of their nature; his wife, whom he abandoned died some years ago, and he leaves no descendants. Mr. Parker belonged to a family noted for longevity and vigorous health, he being one of twelve, five brothers and seven sisters. Two have recently died aged respectively 80 and 79 years, and the remaining ten are still living.

Fire Razes Garage With \$2200 Loss

A spectacular fire in Quidnet causing an estimated damage of \$2200 razed a garage and threatened a Summer residence Wednesday as Nantucket firefighters battled flames for about one hour.

The one-car garage, owned by Hermann Hagedorn, prominent author and poet, was a complete loss, according to Fire Chief Archibald Cartwright. He said it was the greatest fire loss on the Island this year.

The blaze, set off by sparks from an incinerator, was seen by a neighbor of the Hagedorns at about 1 p.m. Firefighters raised a curtain of water between the flaming structure and the residence preventing the fire from spreading.

Tremendous heat in the seven

foot gap between the two buildings melted the tar on house shingles. About 25 firefighters aided in battling the blaze.

Sparks from the town dump started a fire on the Commons at 3:25 p.m. Saturday but was quickly extinguished. A porch fire at 55 Union Street Monday caused negligible damage. The blaze was attributed to a discarded cigaret, according to the Fire Chief.

Aug. 6, 1954

"WHERE IS QUIDNET?"

Some forty years ago, when ocean steamers were few in number and their trips far between, one of the largest and fastest then on the transatlantic route—we think it was either the Great Britain or the Great Western—was discovered and boarded by some of our fishermen, off the east side of our island, and supplied with a pilot. She had wandered a little from her true reckoning, owing to thick weather, and her commander, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, was somewhat startled at suddenly finding himself in such dangerous proximity to unknown shores. When the fishermen, in their small boat, came alongside, he asked anxiously what the name of the place was, and was answered, "Quidnet." "Quidnet!" he repeated, with some show of astonishment, "Where is that? It isn't down on any of Her Majesty's charts." No, verily, it was not; neither, we presume, was Wauwinet nor Sesachacha nor 'Sconset. But the great world is finding out where these localities are, and putting their natural advantages to good use. 'Sconset, which was in our juvenile days so far, far away over the moors, is now accessible by railroad, and her name is becoming famous even in the cities of the Great West. Pilgrims from far and near gather in multitudes at her shrines, and she is fast asserting her dignity as a postal station and a municipality. She has sent forth exploring parties into the wilderness, searching for places and things unique and beautiful, and they have been successful in their quest. Surveyors are mapping out the ground all along the bank on our eastern shore, the noise of building mechanics is heard throughout the land, and ere long the bluff is to be crowned with beautiful villas all the way up to the Haulover.

The march of improvement appears now to extend in that direction, invading those regions known as Plainfield and Squam, and promises to invest with new life and beauty a part of our island which has been hitherto a comparative *terra incognita*. Land in that section becomes day by day more valuable, and is now held at handsome prices. The number of summer residences is steadily increasing, and the light-house at Sankoty, shedding its beneficent beams far out over the roaring Atlantic, is no longer to stand alone—the only conspicuous work of human skill for miles on our eastern coast. 'Sconset, Sankoty and Wauwinet as salient points in the line, are destined to be known and quoted throughout the length and breadth of the continent, and it is not too much to expect that even Quidnet may some day find a place on Her Majesty's chart.

Sept. 5, 1885

Sesachacha Pond Beach Bill Defeated in Legislature.

Representative Robert F. Mooney reported on Thursday that the House voted to accept the adverse recommendation of the Legislative Committee on Harbors and Public Lands on House Bill 755. This bill, sponsored by Representative Mooney at the request of the Rights of Way Committee, would have had the State purchase certain beach areas at the head of Sesachacha Pond. According to the plan, the State would have turned the land over to the Town following the purchase.

Representative Mooney said the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources favors the acquisition of beach and other lands for public use, but evidently cannot allow States funds to be spent to purchase lands for communities. The State will purchase beach areas, as has been done on Cape Cod, but does not turn them over to local communities as was requested in the case of the Sesachacha Pond area.

March 23, 1954

Property Owners Protest Approval Of Quidnet Road Project

Nine letters and telegrams from Quidnet property owners to Selectmen last night protested planned reconstruction of the Quidnet Road at a cost of \$100,000 under a State bond issue but the Board which previously had approved the project in connection with the State Department of Public Works did not change its stand. The town will contribute nothing to the cost of the project.

Copies of some of the protests had been forwarded by the objectors to the DPW officials also.

Quidnet abutters have protested the road needs only ordinary repairs and object to resurfacing required by State engineering regulations. However, in approving the project, the Selectmen had specified the 7900 feet of Quidnet road reconstruction would not exceed 20-foot in width and that resurfacing follow the natural topography of the road.

Telegrams protesting the new construction and urging Selectmen to reconsider their vote were received from Philip G. Forsythe of New York and Quidnet, Reginald F. Seidel of Englewood, N. J. and Quidnet, Charles D. and Katherine Roberts of Englewood, N. J. and Quidnet, and Spencer O. Olson of

(Continued on Page 6)

Sept. 12, 1958

Dec. 25, 1880



Photo by Ray Whittaker

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Laporte, who were married October 15, 1960, at St. Lawrence church in New Bedford, Mass. The bride is the former Rose Mary Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Johnson, of Quidnet, Nantucket. The couple reside at 290 Conduit St., New Bedford.

Dec. 15, 1960



Picturesque Nantucket.

New Views, Cabinet Size, of Nantucket, Siasconset, Surf-side, Wauwinet, etc., etc.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY H. S. WYER, YONKERS, N. Y.

+Catalogue of Subjects:+

First Series.

Nantucket from Brant Point (2 views).
Brant Point Lighthouse.
Steamers Island Home and Monohansett.
Ocean House.
Springfield House (4 views).
From North Church Tower (5 views).
From South Church Tower (7 views).
From High School Building (5 views).
From Uriah Gardner's Hill (2 views).
View of South Tower, &c.
Interior Unitarian Church.
Interior High School.
Interior Coffin School.
Interior Museum (3 views).
Interior Atheneum Library (2 views).
Old House at North Shore.
Old Houses in Orange Street.
Old Houses in Union Street.
Old Houses in Polpis.
Old Windmill.
Site of Tristram Coffin's Homestead.
Wannacomet Water Works (3 views).
North Cemetery (2 views).
Prospect Hill Cemetery (2 views).
High School Building.
Soldiers' Monument.
Cliff Cottages (3 views).
North Beach, Jetty, &c.
County Jail and House of Correction.
Vestal Street.
Yachts at Anchor.
North Congregational Church.

Second Series.

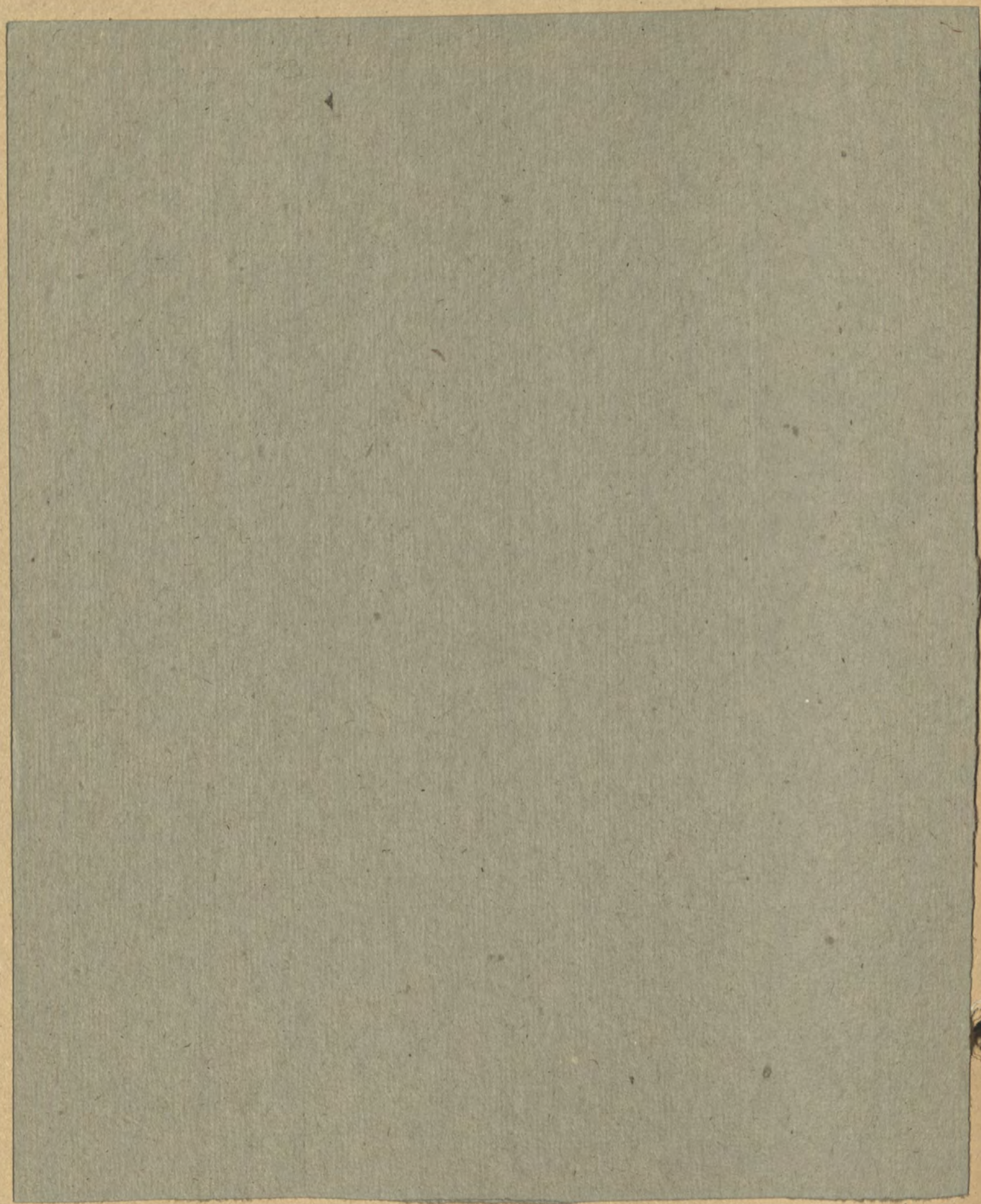
First Glimpse of 'Sconset.
Bird's-eye of 'Sconset Looking North.
Bird's-eye of 'Sconset Looking North-west.
Bird's-eye of 'Sconset Looking West.
'Sconset from the South (2 views).
Street Views (3).
Ocean View House.
Atlantic House.
'Sconset Post Office (2 views).
'Sconset Beach (2 views).
Sunset Heights (2 views).
Old Fish Cart, &c.
Old Fireplace.
Village Pump, &c.
'Sconset Cottages (various).
Wauwinet House.
Sharking at Wauwinet.
Sankoty Head Lighthouse (2 views).
Surf-side Beach (4 views).
Surf-side Clam-bake.
Surf-side, General View.
Train Leaving Surf-side.
Bluefishing at Surf-side.
Life Saving Station.
Tom Never's Head.
Quidnet and Sesachacha.

Other subjects will be added from time to time.

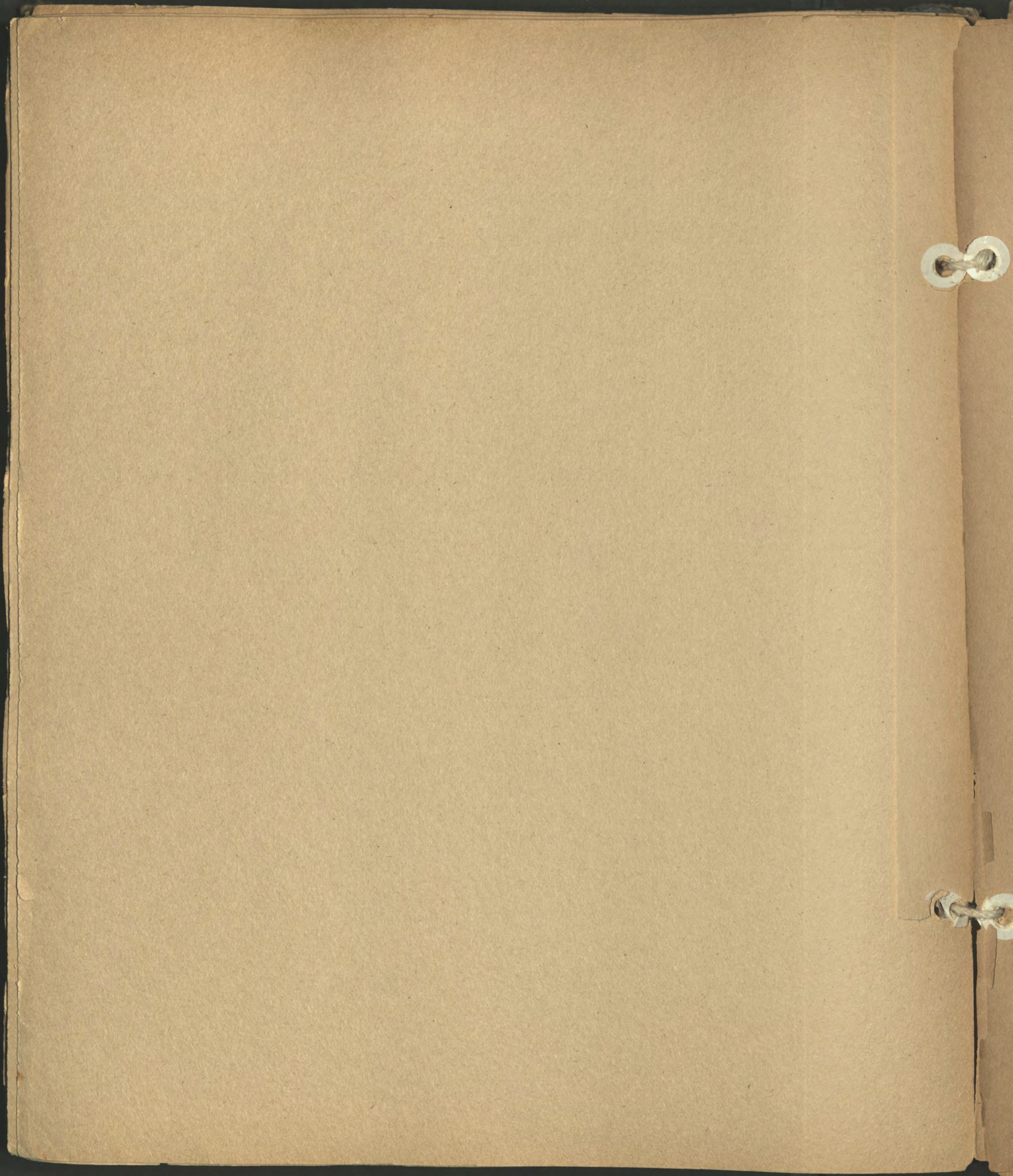
The views from the towers and High School building (17 in number) are published in a larger size, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$, on 8x10 cardboard. These views embrace a wide field and show nearly around the island.

Price of Cabinets, \$2.50 per dozen, 25 cents each; larger size 40 cents each, \$4 per dozen. General Agency for these views at store of Miss S. A. Coleman, Centre street. Views will be sent to any address by mail, post paid, on receipt of price.

H. S. WYER, Photographer,
YONKERS, N. Y.







Shimmo Valley



A GLIMPSE DOWN SHIMMO VALLEY

CHARLES L. COFFIN, non-resident.

Land at Shimmo described as follows: Beginning at a point at 45 degrees 15 minutes east, distant 26 feet from a square rock, the centre of the same, at the base of the highest bluff on Shimmo beach and running south 46 degrees 45 minutes east, 109 feet and 5-10 of a foot, thence north 43 degrees 15 minutes east, 100 feet to a stake, thence north 46 degrees 45 minutes west, 100 feet to a stake, thence north 46 degrees 45 minutes west, 105 and 5-10 feet, thence south 45 degrees 15 minutes west, 100 feet to the point of beginning. Tax \$3.60.

Tax Sale

1904

SHIMMO HILLS

AN EXCLUSIVE COLONY

FOR INFORMATION SEE YOUR BROKER.

1929

Commissioners Hold Hearing At Shimmo Bay.

The County Commissioners held a hearing Wednesday afternoon in response to a petition filed with the board several weeks ago to lay out a road to Shimmo Bay, through the so-called Underhill land. This section had recently been fenced by Mrs. White, the present owner of the estate, and entrance thereto was closed to the public. There was an impression in the minds of some people, apparently, that the public had rights through this land to the shore at Shimmo. It has been used occasionally for years, to be sure, but evidently it was only through courtesy of the owners of the land, who claim ownership and title to the land which has not been disputed up to this time.

The erection of the fence and the posting of the land against trespassers, seems to have been the reason for the petition to the County Commissioners with the request that a road be opened up by the county through to the shore at Shimmo Bay.

Whether there is need for the road, in the line of "public necessity and convenience", is for the County Commissioners to decide. It would of course mean quite an expense to the County, in payment for land taken, construction of fences on the boundary lines, and in building and maintaining the road, which are matters the Commissioners always take into consideration.

That there is considerable interest in the proposition, both for and against, was evident from the fact that, in spite of the sharp, piercing wind, twenty-nine persons were disposed to journey out to Shimmo, Wednesday afternoon. They included the following: Elliot Whelden, Clinton Orpin, William F. Codd, William H. Wyer, H. Linsly Johnson, Walter Coffin, Edward H. Whelden, Edward Backus, John L. Whelden, Huram W. Macy, Randolph M. Swain, Lawrence Mooney, Sr., William N. Lewis, Irvin M. Wyer, Nicholas E. Norton, Eugene M. Perry, Edward H. Perry, John R. Killen, Walter H. Burgess, James H. Wood, Sr., Samuel P. Pitman, Richard E. Burgess, Albert R. Coffin, Elliot H. Sylvia, Thomas G. Macy, Lincoln J. Ceeley, Manuel Santos, Edward H. Whelden, Jr., James L. Holm.

Those speaking in favor of the petition to open the road were R. E. Burgess, James H. Wood, Sr., Edward H. Whelden, Albert R. Coffin, Elliot Whelden and William N. Lewis.

The remonstrants against opening the road were H. Linsly Johnson, Huram W. Macy, William H. Wyer, Irvin M. Wyer, William F. Codd, Lawrence Mooney and Walter Coffin.

Some of the petitioners claimed that the road has always been open. Richard E. Burgess said he could hark back eighty years or thereabouts and he was positive that the public had always been able to use the road to Shimmo Bay. There were remonstrants, however, who claimed they knew better, and the key which fitted the pad-lock on the gate fifty years ago was produced as evidence that the road was a private bit of land.

Arguments were freely made and there was more or less good-natured talk during the hearing, but the County Commissioners listened carefully and shivered with the rest of the crowd in the chilly December breeze blowing right off the ocean.

The petition and hearing will be further considered at the monthly meeting of the board the first Wednesday in January.

SHIMMO VALLEY COMPANY

Distributors of Shimmo Valley Farm Products

MILK CREAM BUTTER
EGGS POULTRY VEGETABLES

When you want Fresh Native Vegetables, just go to
Shimmo Valley Company

FOR SALE Shimmo Point

With Dwelling House, Barn, Ice House and Bath Houses, and

any quantity of land the purchaser desires.

On the harbor, three miles from town. First-rate bathing, boating and fishing. Apply to

William H. Wyer,
Box 410, Nantucket, Mass.

1st

Shimmo Hills Building Plots

SHAWKEMO HILLS 350 acres

SIASCONSET 24 acres

FOR SALE

Abbott S. Coffin Co.

13 Pearl Street

Telephone 772

Fire at Shimmo.

The fire department was called out about 11 o'clock Tuesday evening for a fire that had been discovered on the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis C. Henry, at Shimmo. The number 141 was blown on the fire alarm, as first reports indicated that the trouble was at Monomoy. Two pieces of apparatus were rushed out by Chief Blair and the blaze was soon under control.

The damage was not extensive, mostly on the roof. It was probably caused by a cigarette butt, which had lodged in the gutter after being tossed out of the window of the second story. At first it was thought the fire might have started from electric wiring, but investigation proved that this was not the case, as the wiring was in perfect condition.

The fire apparatus was handicapped badly in reaching the scene of the fire, by the private automobiles which hurried out to Shimmo after the alarm sounded, monopolizing the highway, and in some cases the drivers refusing to pull aside for the apparatus to get by.

The attitude of the general public at a time like this seriously interferes with the working of the department. Curiosity and nothing more—with no possibility of being of assistance in handling the fire—is evidently what draws drivers of cars out even in the midnight hours, regardless of the handicap which they always are at such times.

Shimmo is not an easy place to reach, as it is off the main highway with only rutted roads leading there, and when a fire does occur in such a place the apparatus ought to be given an open road and not interfered with.

Chief Blair and his force of fire fighters did well in subduing the fire on the Henry house, however, as it had gained quite a headway when discovered and it was a good two-mile run from town before it could be reached. Water would have been available from the hydrant service extending to Monomoy and Shimmo, but it was not necessary, the blaze being subdued by the tanks of chemical fluid.

Nantucket Spring Water Case.

At the last sitting of the superior court for Nantucket the equity case of Burgess et al. vs. Harps et al. consumed the most of two days, and by agreement the arguments were to be heard before Judge Hardy at Boston last Saturday. J. K. Berry represented the plaintiffs and W. C. Wait and Allen Coffin the defendants. Mr. Wait, being first in order, contended that the plaintiffs had produced no evidence showing that their spring water possessed any special merit over any other spring water; and that it did appear that plaintiffs first used the word Shawkemo, the name claimed by Harps, and subsequently changed the spelling on his sign to Shawaukimmo; that the name of Burgess had never been associated with plaintiffs' water; that Shawaukimmo is not a fancy name if it is an ancient Indian name; that neither Harps nor D. W. Burgess & Son ever undertook to sell spring water as that of plaintiffs, so that no one could have been deceived; that the plaintiffs' spring was never anciently known as Shawaukimmo; and that no damage is shown to have been suffered; that it was shown that Harps filed a trade mark, as he had a right to do, using the name anciently applied to the spring which he now owns, and had his name plainly stamped upon his crates containing his carboys, and that he had a right to call the attention of printers and painters to the law regulating trade marks; that no unfair competition had been shown. Numerous deeds, maps and historical data were introduced showing the spelling of the word most nearly as Harps spelled it on his crates, but that not a single piece of history had been introduced showing a spelling like that of plaintiffs.

Mr. Berry offered a map from the proprietors' plat book and several other documents, and contended from the testimony of W. B. Starbuck and S. Lewis that Mr. Harps's spring was anciently known as the Shimmo spring and not Shawkemo; that as plaintiffs owned what was known as Shawkimmo farm they had a right to use the word, no matter how it was spelled, as the proper designation of their valuable spring; and that, as defendants admitted plaintiffs had first introduced their water upon the market, Harps had no right to record a trade mark for the name of a spring water so nearly resembling that of plaintiffs; that the Harps spring was never on the farm known as Shawkemo; and that the trade mark was fraudulently obtained; that when spring water was worth \$5 a barrel it was an object for defendants to go into the business. Mr. Berry admitted that while there had not been evidence sufficient to show a conspiracy, yet the man who first adopted the name is entitled to have all others enjoined from the use of it. Plaintiffs had prepared their spring for the production of water and advertised it, while defendants, without any expense or labor, were reaping the benefit.

The judge took the papers and will hand down his decision when he has had time to read the evidence submitted and look over the decisions cited by both parties.—*N. B. Standard.*

The bill in equity brought by R. E. Burgess & Sons to restrain John Harps, and D. W. Burgess & Son from selling water under the name of "Shawkemo spring water," heard at the last sitting of the Superior Court for Nantucket, and, by agreement, argued at Boston on Saturday of last week before Judge Hardy, has been dismissed.

July 20, 1901

July 16, 1932

Boyhood Life on a Polpis Farm. Peat Making a Half Century Ago.

One feature of our work was certainly distinctive, and I doubt if any such is now done at that old farm or any other on the island. I refer to "peating." At the easterly side of our farm plot—I use the collective pronoun, for, in review, I almost feel that I was then in partnership with Captain Swain; at any rate I was loyally interested with him—was a considerable area of swamp land, covered over with a fibrous sward, closely knitted together with rootlets of various kinds of swamp shrubs. Beneath it lay a deep, rich deposit of black smooth mud, or such it appeared to be. It was, however, peat, which was an excellent material for fuel, and comprised, presumably, decayed vegetable matter, which had been changing and amalgamating through many years.

Peat, burned in an ordinary kitchen stove, or in a so-called parlor stove, was our depended upon fuel on that farm. We used two horses, each hitched to a tip-cart, when working in the peat swamp. The first process, which was by hand, was to remove the tough covering of sward. A large axe was used, and it required constant and hard blows to cut through it. That done, it was lifted by a spade inserted beneath it and the rich deposit of peat was exposed. Backing up one of the tip-carts, it was loaded, followed by the other, so that we kept one loading while the other was going out. Crude peat certainly looked like a dirty mess, and such it was until worked to its perfection.

The digging was done with a long, flat paddle, about six inches wide and two feet or thereabouts long, fashioned on to and forming the extension of a handle such as made for a shovel, spade, or similar article; on the side was an iron plate, about six inches long and two inches wide, beveled to an edge, thus forming a cutter, by which it shaped the peat as it was lifted from its natural bed into a long bar. It constituted one of our most useful farm implements. These bars, as taken from the swamp, meant nothing for preservation in shape as the peat in that form was simply thrown up into the cart. Each load was taken out and up on to a knoll of the upland and dumped, about three feet apart, in a straight line, designed for making a "peat bed."

I do not recall how many loads we used for the purpose, for a guess I should say ten or twelve. When placed, we then unhitched the horses from the carts, and hitched one to an ordinary iron-tooth harrow, such as generally used on the farm; the other we hitched to a slow, flat wooden-sled, with plain wooden runners. On the sled were four barrels, and driving down into the swamp they were filled with water and then drawn up along-side of the loads of muck.

The horse hitched to the harrow was then driven through and across the piles of peat, back and forth many times, while the other horse hitched to the sled was driven up and down the side, and with a bucket, water was thrown copiously into that mess of black muck. In that way we leveled out and elongated it, mixing it into a bed about six feet wide and eight inches thick.

The next move was to go over it with the slicker. The slicker was simply a piece of flat board, perhaps ten or twelve inches wide, with a round pole or handle inserted at each end a few inches in from the outer edge. Hitching a horse to this, with Captain Swain on one side of the bed and I on the other, holding it at an angle of about forty-five degrees, we drove the horse through and thus smoothed its surface. Naturally the ends were pushed out to a concaved thinness, which we turned in and smoothed up with a spade. Then with a hoe we went all around the two sides and ends and left the peat bed complete in dimensions about as I have given them.

Marking it into squares was the next thing done—a simple but effective process. Each of us with an ordinary two-tined hay-fork in hand, Captain Swain on one side and I on the other, we reached about half-way, in standing on an angle to each other, and letting the fork lie lightly we drew it towards us. We continued this the entire length of the peat bed, and then reversed, going over it again. Thus we had the surface marked off into practically six-inch squares. The material on which we worked was so soft that the weight of the fork made a line about a half inch deep.

Brought to that stage the "peat making" was then left to the action of the sun and the mild atmosphere; and favorable atmospheric conditions had everything to do with immediate further results.

After four to six days we returned to the work. In our absence the sun and dry atmosphere had absorbed the bulk of the moisture from the peat beds, the sun's rays had acted on the lines impressed by the drawing across of the hay-fork, and they were opened and deepened for about three quarters of an inch. Then followed the "cutting through" to the ground to separate the drying peat into square blocks. For that we used a piece of an old scythe fastened on to the end of an old handle taken from a discarded rake or hoe, and we reached in half way, as we had done in the marking, and drawing from the center to the outer edge we cut the blocks apart.

Left again to the action of the sun

for two or three days more, we again returned to the work, and, down on our knees, we would pick up each of the blocks of peat, carefully turn it over, placing the under side up, spread it out over the ground that it might dry sufficiently to cart it into the peat house. We made two such peat beds in a day, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon. In laying them out we left a space of about six feet between them, thus providing for space when we turned the blocks upside down for drying, as such would naturally require a greater area than when compact in the bed as originally made and marked off.

After we had turned over and spread out the blocks of peat, we left them for some two or three days before carting and placing them in the house. By that time the peat would be quite hard, yet nevertheless "green" when it was so stored. As I remember, we made six or eight of those peat beds the season I was on the farm. When thoroughly dry we used it quite exclusively for fuel at the farm, and we had a considerable quantity for sale. The price was a dollar and a quarter a load—a tip-cart—and it was hard-earned money.

The peat nearly exhausted itself in burning, leaving a very fine, soft, white ash; we used the ash at the horse stalls in the barn, thus converting it into fertilizer.

On the farm we had two peat houses. Each was a building ten or twelve feet wide, perhaps fifteen feet high and thirty to forty feet long, with a shingled apex roof. The sides were of plain boards, laid an inch or two apart, so as to permit a free circulation of air through, similar to the construction of a corn-crib, providing for a complete drying of that special line of fuel.

As I repeat this story it recalls to me an interesting but hard experience; yet I remember with considerable pride how I worked at that industry in the peat swamp and on the upland. I give it to readers of whom I fully believe there are but few, if any, who had similar experiences. I know not whether there is now peat at that old farm, dug or undug, or whether any of that material is now prepared and used for fuel on any section of my native island.

Polpis at the time I lived there a "boy on the farm" was an active, social centre, with many families. Quaise, Pocomo, Quidnet—adjacent villages—had numerous farms and homes. Grouped with the farm houses of Polpis they together constituted a considerable local population. Of those farms I well remember, individually, that of Albert Easton, Joseph M. Folger, Jacob Gibbs, Benjamin Eldridge, Charles Pitman, Capt. Samuel Harris, David Joy Starbuck, Henry Swain, Harvey Smith, Edward Ray, William H. Phinney, Capt. William Rawson, William Starbuck, Benjamin Morris, William R. Perkins, Manuel Enos and Charles Swain. Many children were in the homes on those farms—bright, merry boys and girls—together making a considerable population for the Polpis school.

Captain Charles Swain, with whom I lived, died September 6, 1873, a comparatively young man, being 67 years old; Mrs. Swain died November 30, 1904, lacking but fourteen days of ninety years of age. That is one of the mysterious cases of longevity. A boy on the farm with them in 1862, Mr. Swain was fifty-six years old, and was a hale, hardy and healthy farmer; Mrs. Swain was an invalid, in bed a large part of the time, yet he lived but eleven years after the time of my home with them, while she lived to within ten years of a century. At the time I was a temporary member of their household they had two young daughters, who have always remained residents of their native town—Miss Julia, now the wife of Simeon L. Lewis, Jr., and Miss Marianna.

The young people of those combined villages found not alone their pleasure in daily school life, but more fully in congenial social companies in various ways, in which I was an often participant. Collectively we all enjoyed recreation and delightful fellowship. The work of the farm was hard, irksome and exacting, yet had its mitigating relaxations in the mutual social life which we enjoyed together. The season of the year 1862 on that old farm is to me a spicy memory.

One famous resort for an hour or two on an occasional evening was the shanty of "Happy Hazard." James Hazard, then comparatively old, was a man of exceeding eccentric character. For many years he had lived the life of a recluse, almost ostracized from the respected family to which he belonged. Naturally of a hard, repulsive disposition, he was severely tyrannical, especially when under the influence of liquor—which was a large part of the time. The young men and boys, however, delighted to congregate with him in that somewhat forbidding haunt where he dwelt for many years.

I cannot recall, if indeed I ever knew, much of his previous personal life. I knew him only slightly in my boyhood of a few months on that Polpis farm, and in the way of which I have spoken. Separated largely from the outside world of his narrow environment, he lived in a little one-story, one-room building at the corner of the main road and the lane near the Charles Swain farm—a squatter by permission of the owner of the land. He was accustomed to gather herbs, dry them, and sell them for medicinal purposes, and was also notable for crude wood carving.

From material obtained from small trees—practically brush-wood, as none other grew in our village—which he was permitted by the owners to cut from the swamp lands where it grew, he used to—by hand, with saw, knife and gouge—cut, fashion and shape numerous domestic utensils. I especially remember his wooden knives, forks and spoons.

His wooden spoons, used for mixing, were the most popular, and consequently his most numerous product. Quite deftly and ingeniously he made those several articles, and found at least a limited market for their sale. A small revenue, sufficient for his needs—a large part spent for intoxicants—was obtained from his restricted trade. "Happy Hazard" was a "class" all in and by himself; his "shanty" was a quite matchless resort and the men and boys delighted to go there, and our experiences were eventful if not always pleasurable.

Fifty years ago (March, 1863) I parted company with those remarkable "daily doings" of that diversified life at Polpis. Personally interesting to look back upon, they are doubly fascinating to narrate for the benefit of present day readers. All now is vastly changed in the localities of which I have been speaking from personal experience. Fewer are the boys and girls at Polpis school—those whom I knew as such, if living, are now men and women of comparative advanced life—farms are not now operated as they were, and there is a lonesome reflection overshadowing that once, to me, lively village community.

My year on the farm as a thirteen

to fourteen year old boy is meditatively entertaining to contemplate. A rigorous life, a hard service, yet far from being unmixed with relaxing delight. I then had my serious and my joyous hours and days. It is not with reproach or disdain that I look back upon them. I am glad that such came to me as a portion of my active life, for I am sure that it has had a stimulating effect throughout my subsequent career. And so, reflectively complacent,

"I love to think of boyhood days,
When I arose at four,
And fetched the water from the well—
A thousand pails or more;
And then I'd wake the harrow up,
And pacify the plow;
I love to lie in bed and think
I needn't do it now."

I love to think of boyhood days,
When I the porkers fed;
I used to mix their breakfast food
'Ere yet the sky was red.
I used to dry shampoo the horse
And manure the cow;
I love to lie in bed and think
I needn't do it now."

J. E. C. Farnham.

Huskings.

The advent of the harvest season has been marked this year by a number of old-time "husking bees," particularly among the farmers out eastward.

On Wednesday evening of last week a company of self-invited guests, to the number of a hundred or more, from all parts of the island treated Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gibbs, 2d, to a mammoth surprise party at their home in Pocomo, and taking possession of the barn husked out the entire crop of corn which had just been harvested, then repaired to the house, unpacked the stores of good things which each one had brought, and proceeded to make merry. Barrett's orchestra accompanied the party and old-time songs and dances gladdened the hearts of old and young.

An old-fashioned husking was held at the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Coffin in Polpis last Tuesday evening. There were upward of a hundred guest who were entertained with generous hospitality. Steven's orchestra furnished music for dancing and a most enjoyable time was had by all present.

FOR SALE.

Beechwood Farm

In the village of Polpis. Formerly the property of the late Frederick C. Sanford. Contains 175 acres, more or less.

Situated about 5 miles from town and 2 miles from the village of Siasconset. The former owner was offered and refused \$10,000 for it just previous to his death. It is now offered for about its assessed value. The house alone cost more than the farm can be bought for today. Large barn with cellar, cupola and vane, and numerous other outbuildings. The barn contains 30 tie-ups for cattle and 6 roomy horse-stalls. The farm can be made to cut 60 tons of hay, cutting now between 20 and 30 tons. Every one who contemplates securing land should see this property, at all events, before closing any other deal, as it is the Biggest Bargain for the money ever offered in New England.

JOHN HARPS,
je17 tf Union Store, Main Street.

Wind Adapted Trees for Coastal Planting

Eat-fire Spring Farms Inc., Polpis

We have taken over the entire stock of young Black Pines (Pinus Thunbergi, Nantucket Strain), now in the transplant bed at Bassett Jones' place in Polpis, and also the entire stock of trees, shrubs and plants of Little Tree Farm on Hummock Pond Road.

For Eat-Fire Spring Nursery call:

Nantucket 109-M2

Walter Lubig, Mgr.

"Reminiscences of Old Podpis"
The Prize Winner.

JULY 29, 1922

"Reminiscences of Old Podpis."

By Alcon Chadwick, Class of 1923,
Nantucket High School.

Six miles east from Nantucket town, and bordering the south shore of an inner harbor, namely Polpis, or Podpis, is the quiet little district of the same name. It is partly surrounded by the inland water-way, which takes the form of a U. Swain's Neck, a peninsula, breaks up the harbor. From this, Polpis gets its name, which means "the divided or branch harbor."

The whole region is gently rolling, save for the great swamps. Here the wabsche grass crowds for room, and black ducks hide along the bay. The wide view across the harbor to Coatue, and beyond to the gray town, no one ever forgets. Farm dwellings dot the landscape. Perhaps the next most conspicuous building is the school-house. With its large windows, its white flag-pole, and its now silent belfry, it seems to act as a sturdy guard over the small settlement.

To the east of Polpis lies Squam, a very swampy country, with uplands overgrown with bayberry bushes and briars. Here is located the famous "Eat-Fire Spring," of Indian fame. It is large and never failing, and furnishes water now for the Heighton farm. This water is said to be the purest on the island.

To the west is a neck of land called Quaise, which means "the end, or point." Thomas Mayhew reserved this promising tract for his own use when he sold the island of Nantucket to the ten original purchasers. South of Polpis is Spotsor. Here dwelt an Indian tribe, for whose chief, Spotsor, this region was named. Through his wife, the daughter of Nickanoose, chief of the Wauwinet possessions, Spotsor was sachem for nearly forty years.

Podpis was occupied by the Wauwinet tribe of Indians when the island was first settled by the white men. By degrees it came into the hands of the new comers. Nantucketers should be proud of their forefathers, because they did not steal the land away from the red men, as was done some times on the mainland, but bought it, for trinkets, beads, homespun, and grain. According to old records, John Swain, Sr., father of the first white male child born on the island, was one of its first settlers.

As time went on Podpis grew to be a village of importance, though made up mainly of farms. Even now the chief industry is agriculture. Only about one-fourth of the large old farms, however, are left. While cultivating one often digs up bricks and mortar, the remains of old dwellings. They used to keep large herds of cattle, which were allowed then to graze on the commons. All the land



THE CURVE AT THE FOOT OF THE HILL ON THE POLPIS ROAD.

on the island, with the exception of house-lots, was owned in common by a body of share-holders called "The Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Lands." None of this was set off to individuals until the latter part of the last century. Then it was gradually bought up, and the farmers were forced to have their own pastures. Their chief crops were field corn and hay, up to about the year 1890, when Nantucket Island began to grow into a summer resort. At that time they began to do a little market gardening.

The great tracts of the old-time were owned mainly by retired sea captains, who, having either made their fortune or else lost it, settled down here to spend their declining days. Two of these were Capt. Joy, whose farm was on the lane almost opposite the school-house, and Capt. Rule, who lived on the farm now occupied by Harry Dunham.

Capt. Joy was a famous whaling master. He lost his ship during the war of 1812; so, as most of his money was invested in this, he was forced to take up farming. The captain was a resolute, hard working man. It is a good thing that he was, for he was the father of eight children. One of the Joy boys, after ploughing all day, was not too tired to walk the six miles to town to see the girls.

As shoes were made at home in those days they were preserved with care and then passed along. The thrifty lad went barefooted as far as what we call now "Our Island Home." The leather strings of his home-made shoes were tied together and thrown around his neck, so a shoe was swinging on each side. On his way home he trudged along in his precious shoes until he reached his favorite out-post. Then he took them off, hung them on his shoulders, and footed it on home to Podpis in his bare feet.

Perhaps the best known of the old farmers was Frederick C. Sanford, a retired Nantucket ship owner, who, like other islanders of means, invested in a farm "out Polpis way." He used to wear a silk hat, drive a fast horse, and walk about with one hand in a coat-tail pocket. Many Nantucketers still remember him. His town mansion on the corner of Broad and Federal streets, is now occupied by Capt. Killen.

Mr. Sanford's farms included those now owned by a gunning club, and the two belonging to the Nantucket Cranberry Co., known now as the Polpis Club, Beechwood, and Norwood, respectively. It is said that while Mr. Sanford carried on the farm on Swain's Neck they used to turn up shells a foot deep by plough. He said that Spotsor and his Indians

CAUTION.

THE Public are cautioned against purchasing the Homestead at Polpis, of the late Benjamin F. Swain, as the present Holder's Title is to be tested in the Courts. O. J. SWAIN
je243m*

July 15, 1893

had probably put them there; but geologists have told that they indicated an ante-glacial deposit, other traces of which have been found in the Sankaty bluffs and while digging wells and cellars.

Farming was not the only occupation in old Podpis in former days. We find that a number of fulling mills were in operation during the colonial times. One of these, built over the small stream halfway between the public school house and the junction of the Polpis road, was in use in the year 1772. It was managed by a Scotchman named Nichols, with whom David Allen served as an apprentice until he became master of the trade. This Mr. Allen made the first cut nails ever used on the island or even perhaps in this country.

A fulling mill was also built by the Gardner brothers at Podpis, but its exact location is not known. Another was operated at Quaise. Salt making was carried on, on a large scale, on Quaise Point. This busy, bustling village of Podpis was evidently more prosperous than the present Polpis.

Another necessary employment here was peat digging. The greater part of the peat used on Nantucket was found and dug in and around Podpis. These extensive beds seem to prove that at some time a great many trees grew on the island. Bartholomew Gosnold, who may have landed here first, reported that the eastern part of the island was densely covered with large trees when they found the island. Peat was some time the chief fuel. Some of the older Islanders can remember now when coal was introduced here.

Nantucket people did not like it, for it was so hard to kindle.

Peat-gathering, especially during the War of 1812, when the British blockaded the island, and during the Civil War, when coal was a great luxury, became an important industry. The old beds are now low, wet swamps.

To prepare peat for use, first the trees must be cleared; then the roots were pulled out and the turf removed, in much the same way as the Sankaty Head Golf grounds are being cleared today. Next the peat was dug out, hauled to a bed, and harrowed until the lumps were well broken up.

Water was thrown on then to make the mass soft and pasty, so that they could slick it off and mark it into squares. The slicker was usually a board, with a pole attached to both ends. This was drawn over the peat to smooth it off. A hay fork was used to mark it into squares. When the top of the peat was dry they turned the squares with forks, and sometimes by hand. The peat, when ready, was piled in long, narrow houses, with tight roofs, and slats on the sides.

Great care was taken to get this fuel well dried before the white frost came; otherwise, it would crumble. Peat digging time always followed haying. It was common to hear the old farmer say, "Got to hustle and get this haying done, so that we can get a-peating 'fore the frost comes on."

Some of the houses of the Podpisers, who were, of course, participants in the thriving industries of the settlement, are worthy of mention. The oldest was George Swain, Sr.'s. This dwelling, which stood on the farm now owned by Frank P. Chadwick, was built, it is said, about 1684. If so, it was two years older than "The Old House," in town, the date of which is 1686. Near this site a



The Selectmen inspecting the oil surface on Polpis road. Contractor Sullivan removing a section of material at the board's direction. Note the pose of Secretary Chase (at the left of the picture) with jack-knife in one hand and the other besmeared with oil. Next is William T. Swain (chairman), then Sullivan, Selectmen Holmes and Chase and Inspector Johnson (in shirt sleeves). In the carriage in the distance are Selectman Hull and Superintendent of Streets Gibbs.

Sept. 6, 1913

cannon ball was found recently by the writer's brother, while planting potatoes. It is reasonable to suppose that this was fired here by the British during the War of 1812.

The second oldest, called the Meader house, stood near the Quaise line. A part of this was nearly as old as the Jethro Coffin house. It is said that when they took it down they found three floors in the parlor. The bark still remained on the timbers, and they were faced only where the floors rested. This structure and many others were built of the island timber.

The next oldest building known was constructed in 1704, by George Swain, Sr., for his daughter Elizabeth, who married Joshua Sevolle. This old landmark stood directly opposite the present school-house. Love Smith was its last occupant. It was blown down in 1902, after having stood for nearly 200 years.

The cottage now owned by E. J. Hollister, on the high bluff in Quaise, overlooking the upper harbor, contains some timber, and five-one-plank oak doors, from the famous Miriam Coffin house, the cellar hole of which is close by. "Miriam" (Keziah) Coffin was a shrewd and wealthy ship owner. She had built a handsome town mansion, on what is now Mrs. Maria T. Swain's lawn on Center street, and then this country house in Quaise.

From this secluded spot, she was supposed to have a tunnel to the shore, to use in smuggling. As yet, however, no trace of it has been found. History tells us that Miriam is believed to have rendered aid to the British during the Revolution, and that she was tried at Watertown later for smuggling.

We must not forget the Farmers' Institute, or the "Polpis Court House," as it was sometimes called. This was a one-room shack, which stood first on the lane almost opposite the school house. It was afterwards moved to a site near the mill pond. A few years ago it was blown down. Here, about 1855, the men folks gathered evenings to talk over the current news, and to brag about their crops, while the old whalers in the village were "gamming" in the "Captain's Room." They continued to meet here until about 1900. Near this building is a large boulder, which, as the story goes, jumped the fence one night. The truth is that the owner of the neighboring pasture moved his fence after dusk on the other side of the rock to get more land.

Polpis seems very quiet now, when we compare it with the flourishing village of old Podpis. It is, however, a beautiful place to live in. One can look for miles, from any point of the settlement. Strangers have begun to realize that this part of the island has great charm. Three summer cottages have been bought by off-islanders within the last few years. Now that a permanent road is to be built through to 'Sconset, it is predicted that much of the travel will be lured this way, and that the settlement here will increase.

Thus, this beautiful section of the island has changed from a bustling village to a quiet little settlement, and from "Podpis" to "Polpis." No one who has grown up on a farm, with the sea-scape in front, the brown and green hummocky landscape behind, and the old echoes and traditions all around, would ever "wish to change his place."

While at work on the bog of the Burgess Cranberry Co., Monday, the laborers unearthed a peat sled some two feet below the surface. It was in perfect condition, even to the rope attached, and on it was cut the name "Peter Chase." How long the sled had been there is only a matter for conjecture. Peter Chase died in 1842, and if he was the last to use the sled in gathering peat from Gibbs swamp, then it must have lain there 64 years. But of course it may have gone into other hands even prior to his decease, and been used by various persons since. The fact of its being so far below the surface would indicate it had lain there very many years. The bog makers frequently unearth arrow heads, evidence of the Indians' presence in years ago.

July 29, 1922

DRINK Shawaukemmo Spring Water!

(BOTTLED AT THE SPRING.)

Below please find analysis given by the State Chemist of Massachusetts, S. R. Sharples:

Oxide of Iron and Alumina,	0.14	Free Ammonia	0.0000
Silica,	1.01	Albuminoid Ammonia,	0.0004
Calcium Sulphate,	2.24	Nitrates,	0.0000
Calcium Carbonate,	2.82	Nitrites,	0.0000
Magnesium Carbonate,	0.55		
Sodium Chloride (common salt),	3.04		
Total Mineral Matter	9.80		

This water is free from organic impurities. It is an excellent table water.

S. R. SHARPLES, State Chemist.

FOR SALE BY
CENTRAL MARKET

1913

Doubtful Things Are Uncertain,

But there is no doubt when you buy a jar of

Shawaukemmo Spring Water

With Guaranteed Analysis.

Five-gallon Jars, 25c.

CENTRAL MARKET has no superior for furnishing your table with Fresh Beef, Pork, Sausage, Corned Beef, Fine Fowl and Chickens. Leave your order at

CENTRAL MARKET

R. E. Burgess & Sons.

Nantucket and Siasconset.

1902

See Shimmo

Shawaukemmo! Shawaukemmo!

Shawaukemmo Boiling Spring Water

Can be bought only through one channel, and that is at CENTRAL MARKET. Burgess' Market, or no other market but ours, sells Shawaukemmo Spring Water. You may find something that will answer your purpose, but if you want Shawaukemmo Spring Water leave your order at Central Market and it will be promptly delivered.

We wish to extend an invitation to our trade to visit our spring and examine the conveniences for PURE WATER. No barns, dwellings or anything to make the water other than pure. This never-failing spring has been running through the same channel for hundreds of years, yielding about 400 barrels every twenty-four hours, and it is so protected that there is no opportunity for the water to become impregnated. The water flows through a two-foot cement tile. There is a cement floor at the top of the tile, and a building covers the spring. The roadway to the spring from the main road is perfectly safe with competent drivers.

R. E. Burgess & Sons

Central Market,

Main street.

Aug. 25, 1900

For the Inquirer and Mirror.
FOURTH OF JULY AT SHEMA:
 A CHARMING BOAT EXCURSION UP HARBOR—A FEW
 CRUMBS FROM A NANTUCKET PICNIC.

Messrs. Editors: Among the many who left town on the morning of the Fourth, in quest of pleasure, perhaps none were more full of glee than the memorable THIRTY-SIX who crowded the seats of the "Dauntless." The flapping sheet and creaking ropes told of the impatience of the bonny boat that longed to leap from her moorings. Soon all were duly arranged. Upon the wharf we noticed a number of "well-wishers." (?) Some whispering of a rainbow in the morning when sailors take warning; others looking bright and cheerful, predicting only a "splendid sail and a safe return;" there were a few from "Doubting Castle," who didn't know—but a truce to it all. Our company of ladies and gentlemen had such perfect confidence in the staunch trim craft, and in the skill and careful management of Capt. B. R. Burdett, that our starting away only quickened our pulses. As the great salt wind grappled with our reefed mainsail, the stout oak mast held Boreas at bay, as we bounded off ever towards the cool heights of SHEMA.

Loomed in the glistening haze old Abram's Rock!
 Where feet of Indian maids toyed with the sea;
 Where the swift gulls in the Summer-time flock,
 Muttering their legends of bird mystery.
 Sweet was the breath of the frolicking gale,
 Eyes never brighter than shone on our deck;
 Three cheers for our Captain! Hurrah for that sail,—
 No danger encountered, nor storm cloud to flock!
 Lively songs whiled away the time, and a few sweet strains from our friend Tobey's violin, inspired in us "great expectations" not yet realized.

THE LANDING—THE PICNIC.

We anchored near the beach. In a small flat boat Captain Burdett kindly rowed us all ashore. Then was hurrying to and fro over the pebbles. In a little while the tent was pitched upon a grassy knoll overlooking the beautiful harbor, and the feast was spread. How shall I picture it? I listened once to John B. Gough's story of "An Afternoon in Hyde Park, London." *The papers could furnish no report of it.* Now one of Gough's speeches and a Nantucket picnic are two things that baffle description. Albeit there was an abundance of everything tempting to the palate. Ice-cold lemonade gave an Arctic snap to the sallies of wit; for impromptu jokes were not wanting, nor aught, indeed, to make the occasion every way agreeable to all. I would not forget

THE "ALBANY CAKE."

I studied its layers of chocolate and gold, a more delighted student, than when poring over Hugh Miller's strata of old red sand-stone! The maker of that cake is no novice, and none will find fault with me for repeating the verdict of the "picnicers" who declared it was "so rich and good!" Then there was the ripe plum pudding so large and delicious, it must have been the mate to the one that graced the first Thanksgiving dinner of our dear New England.

The day was perfect. On neighboring hills were other pleasure-seekers, and an occasional merry laugh from revellers in the distance, added zest to our own unalloyed enjoyment. SHEMA is a favorite site from which to behold as fine a harbor as one would wish to see. The town beyond appears much like a city, while the breeze that sweeps these shady slopes, is fresh and pure.

OUR RETURN.

A few hours' recreation brought our day's venture to a close. Our Captain regaled the larger part of the company with the charms of a boat sail, after which we joined them on board, and in a few moments were homeward-bound. While weighing anchor, twenty or more young people left their camping-ground, and came down the hill to do us honor. A beautiful cornet solo, "St. Patrick's Day in the morning," rolled over the waters, a gratuitous serenade. Mr. G. D. Crane has our thanks for his musical favor. As we sailed away, our True Flag fluttered back its loyal welcome to the stirring air of Old Ireland's patron saint.

The picture recalled to my recollection a May-day in Merry England, when, as I have read, "a few genial old curates, smitten with antiquarian love, foster among the peasantry the holiday observance of their ancestors; when pipe, viol and tabor call lads and lasses together upon the green, and the handsomest of the village beaux advances and claims the May Queen's hand for the first dance, and proudly leads his fair partner forth."

Ere long we gained Nantucket harbor, came proudly to our landing-place, and gaily wended our way up into the town; but not before giving three hearty cheers for the "Dauntless" and Captain Burdett. Thus we observed Independence Day in 1872! The memory of it will always be bright to the participants, for nothing occurred to mar our pleasurable yacht cruise seaward and back.

A. E. J.

Ownership of Shimmo Road Brought Up at Meeting.

The Selectmen held their regular Thursday evening meeting, with all members present. Report of the last meeting was read by Secretary James Glidden, and approved as read.

A letter was received from the State House in regard to the most recent amendments to the Contributory Retirement System, in connection with action which may be taken as concerns a pension for the retired School Nurse, Mrs. Sevens.

A letter was received from Robert D. Elder, summer resident of Shimmo, in reply to a letter from the Board informing him that the road to Shimmo was not a legally accepted County Road. The original query of Mr. Elder concerned the possibility of permanent repairs to the road. He wrote that, if the town did not own the road, he supposed that he did, insofar as it is in or abuts on my property."

The Board discussed the invitation to attend the re-dedication of the Old North Vestry. Inasmuch as some of the Selectmen expect to be away next week, and as Thursday—the night of the ceremony of re-dedication—is also the meeting night for the Board, it was felt that the members would be unable to attend.

Dennis Dias withdrew his application to have Sunday roller skating at his rink on the Surfside road.

A letter was received from Representative Donald W. Nicholson in Washington, enclosing a letter from Admiral Farley informing him that a Coast Guard Board of Investigation was already in session on the loss of the cruiser *Constance* in these waters.

Nov. 5, 1949

Sweet Peas are Here

They Are Beauties! For Quality and Quantity go to

Shimmo Valley Company

FLOWERS

VEGETABLES

ALL DAIRY and POULTRY PRODUCTS

For the Inquirer and Mirror. The Meadow Lark at Shimmo.

BY REV. PHEBE A. HANAFORD.

'Twas the close of the week, and the day was so fair
 That it glowed with the brightness of May;
 With few clouds and fleecy, the blue of the sky
 Seemed matched by the blue of the bay.

Afar, as we gazed, was the town of our love,
 The home that to us was so dear,
 The haunts of our childhood, the place of their rest
 Whose absence made springtime so dear.

Oh, the outward was fair, and "the azure-arched sky"
 Was a type of the faith we avowed;
 Serenity throned amid brightness we saw,
 And our spirits in reverence bowed.

Clouds and darkness we knew oft surrounded His
 ways,
 But His throne was the unswerving will,
 Which, in love that is boundless, impartial and true,
 Guides His children and blesses them still.

He may guide us along in the valleys of grief,
 He may lead us where soft waters glide,
 He may bid us ascend some rough pathway of trial,
 But He's ever with strength at our side.

So we thought, as we talked, and we mused, while we
 rode,
 And our souls were in unity there,
 Till, as homeward we turned, all at once a sweet song
 Was launched on the clear, bracing air.

'Twas the voice of the meadow lark welcoming spring,
 Proclaiming the winter was gone,
 And calling our hearts to the promise of hope
 That comes with the sweet April morn.

Then we listened, and lo! with the song of the bird
 Our thoughts soared above and away
 To the melodies sounding on heaven's fair shore,
 'Mid the glory of ne'er ending day.

And we thought of the loved ones whose springtime
 on earth
 Is exchanged for the springtime above,
 Where no clouds ever gather, no pathway is dark,
 Where forever unchanging is love.

And we rode to the home in the dear island town,
 With a thought of His goodness to cheer,
 Who gave us the meadow lark's thought-wakening
 song,

To gladden this spring of the year.
 April 2, 1881.

To the Officers and Executive Committee of the Nantucket Plant Guild:

The Polpis Road.

One of the recognized attractions on Nantucket Island is the old-type road known as the Polpis Road.

There are very few hard-surface roads (as distinct from the rutted roads) of any length on the Island—the State Highway to 'Sconset, the Polpis Road (diverging to Wauwinet, Squam and Quidnet, and going on through to 'Sconset), the Madaket Road and the Hummock Pond Road—four in all.

Of these, the State Highway is nearly straight, relatively level and affords the means of getting there as fast as possible by automobile, with the inevitable attendant casualties.

Of the remaining three roads, the Polpis Road is of outstanding charm. It winds up and down its tiny hills, which, after all, are of insignificant grade to the automobile, through fields, by a few remaining farms and views of the harbor and the sound and then, best of all, the intriguing S-turn at Polpis Harbor, a beautiful sheet of water with meadows on either side and Pocomo Head in the distance. This road was laid out by the horse and buggy and follows the natural contours of the land. The natural land surface extends up to the edge of the road with its wild vines, grasses and flowers.

It is a most popular drive for both residents and visitors and is so partly because, in addition to its natural features enumerated above, it has not been marred by the hands of man except at the end near town where modernized under the inspiration (?) of the surveyor, engineer and contractor.

Another of the distinctive Nantucket assets is its rutted roads which are the subject of constant mention by our visitors and which, to be kept as assets, need to be almost altogether left alone.

It is hoped by the writer that the growing appreciation of the Polpis Road and of the rutted roads will influence the town to resist all attempts to change them except for a moderate further widening of a part of the Polpis Road, but in such a way as to leave its natural beauty unmarred by the marks of man.

The reason for this communication is that we read in the paper that there is a movement, by State and Town in cooperation, to provide funds for so-called widening of the Polpis Road; that these plans, beside providing a greater width of bituminous surfacing, follow conventional methods used on the continent, including "straightening" and "leveling" the road at various places; also making artificially graded clear strips along both sides of the road with the resulting occasional cut banks and exposed areas of sand and gravel.

Convenience to motorists doubtless suggests the widening of this road to a moderate extent, and thus it affords a plausible outlet for the spending of money. We doubt if it is true that safety demands this change, as see the accident record of the straight, high-speed State road. If, and when, the Polpis Road is modernized so as to enable high motor speeds, the records show that more serious accidents are likely to result.

To allow engineers and road-builders to do the proposed changing in their usual manner would, in our opinion, be something of a calamity. These two kinds of minds (engineers and contractors) run to surveyed lines, grading, filling, ditching, culverts, white painted guard fences, etc., etc.—well enough on some mainland boulevard but absolutely wrong for the Polpis Road. Indeed, we submit the thought that it will be less expensive for the town to do whatever moderate widening is reasonable at its own expense, instead of going 50-50 with the State in pursuit of a modernized road program.

Now the Madaket Road, which has its hills and curves, is but 16 feet wide, yet absolutely adequate. We hear of no program for widening it, with the attendant expense which must be paid by the taxpayers.

The new portion of the road to Nobadeer is 18 feet wide, and the State Highway 20 feet, yet a part of the Polpis Road near town which has been modernized is 24 feet in width.

It is therefore here submitted that if and when the Polpis Road is widened (which is not here urged) the following be observed by strict specification:

1. The rolling surface of the present road, up and down grades to be continued as now, without attempt to level off or fill in.

2. The present curves of the road to be strictly followed.

3. A maximum width of 20 feet of bituminous surfacing to be employed.

4. The vegetation on ground surface of natural conformation to be allowed to border the road on both sides rather than to level and grade off artificial strips.

5. Every effort to be made to avoid artificial structures, such as concrete retaining walls, culverts, white fences, etc.

6. When completed, no scars to be visible, as made by exposed sand and soil.

7. If widening by adding two feet to either side of the present 16-foot road cannot be done with State aid, except with straightening and leveling as above objected to, then let the Town make such moderate widening from time to time where it may seem most desirable at its own expense, and in the simple, natural and satisfactory manner in which so many of our hard-surface country roads have been built in the past.

I write to suggest that this is a cause which your Plant Guild might wish to sponsor, viz., protesting and working against the desecration of the Polpis Road. I hear such frequent and unanimous expression to this effect that I believe you could, almost without effort, get hundreds of letters from citizens and taxpayers in support of this 7-point program.

Nantucket Plant Guild.

Death of Ida Smith Chadwick.

After an illness of several months, Mrs. Ida R. (Smith) Chadwick passed away at her home in Polpis on Sunday, July 29. Born in Brockton, the daughter of Ferdinand and Harriet A. Smith, she came with the family to Nantucket in early childhood. She attended the public schools here and graduated with high honors.

She was twice married, her second husband, Frank P. Chadwick, surviving; also four children—Franklin Stuart, Alcon, Harriet Fay and Florence Morris Chadwick. There are also six step-children—Charles, Cecil and Edward Chadwick, Mrs. Jesse Eldridge, Mrs. Preston Swain and Mrs. Harry Woodis; also two brothers—Harry B. and Edgar S. Smith.

In early youth the deceased affiliated with the old North Church of Nantucket. She was a member of Sherburne Chapter, Order Eastern Star, of Island Rebekah Lodge, and the local Grange.

Funeral services were held at the Old North Church on Wednesday, with Rev. Mr. Pond in charge. The pastor gave a scripture reading made eulogistic remarks, and offered prayer. Mrs. Frank Taylor sang, "Face to Face", "Lead Kindly Light", and in conjunction with the Eastern Star burial ritual which followed, sang "Nearer, My God, To Thee". A brief commitment service was held at the grave.

The bearers were the sons, stepsons and brothers of the deceased. There was a profusion of floral tributes, attesting the esteem in which Mrs. Chadwick was held.

CAMP NICKANOOSE

For Boys and Girls

"ON THE POLPIS HARBOR"

A BOARDING AND DAY CAMP—ESTABLISHED 1933

Qualified and Experienced Counsellors.

Advisory Board Meeting, June 15th—Reduced Rates.

Swimming, Sailing, Tennis, Dancing, Crafts, Field Sports, Fishing

Transportation to and from Nantucket and 'Sconset Included.

Visit the Camp or Phone 109 J-2 for appointment.

Registered Nurse

ALBERT A. MAY—DIRECTOR

Who has taught Swimming at the two beaches over a period of 25 summers.

1t*

Midnight Fire Almost Totally Destroys Hollywood Farm.

"Hollywood Farm," the pleasant and most attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Maglathlin, on the Polpis road, was badly gutted by a fire which broke out shortly before midnight on Thursday evening.

The fire started in the north wing of the house, and had gained a good headway before the fire department was notified at 11 o'clock. A workman, who had been painting in the kitchen, reported that everything appeared to be all right when he left for town, in the late afternoon. It was evident, however, that the blaze probably smoldered for some time before it burst forth through the windows to reveal itself.

The fire-fighting apparatus responded quickly, but upon arriving at the scene were handicapped by the lack of an available water supply. After running a hose line into a near-by pond, the motor-pumper got in some fine work, squelching the blaze, which by this time had eaten through the ell and was working into the main portion of the house.

Unfortunately, the great start obtained by the blaze, and the delay in getting a water supply, enabled the flames to destroy the ell. The many spectators, who made the trip out from town, expressed the belief that the entire building was burning from the reflection in the sky, as they approached the scene along the road.

The cause of the blaze is not known, although one of the reasons advanced was defective wiring.

The smoke and water damage completed the ruination of the house proper. When the flames were finally subdued the place presented a sadly desolated appearance, with the ell roof collapsed; the charred wood, which had fallen into the main building, all over the floors and stairs; the plaster thoroughly soaked; the water seeping through the walls and over the floors; and the dank smell of wood smoke permeating every nook and cranny of the once most attractive dwelling.

Mr. and Mrs. Maglathlin, who have been spending the winter in Florida, are due to arrive this week-end. The sympathy of all is extended to them upon such a home-coming.

AUG. 4, 1938

Don't Destroy The Charm of The Polpis Road!

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

I confess being much impressed by the article by Bassett Jones in last week's issue, as the same thoughts had been in my mind. I realize the highway officials are doing everything to eliminate danger, but I wonder if Nantucket roads have yet become so congested as to warrant destroying a drive that is so lovely that it has become a scenic feature for the strangers as well as we near-natives and those fortunate enough to have been born here.

As Mr. Jones suggests, all that is necessary to make it perfectly safe is to widen a few of the curves. Should the island later become so crowded (which I hope it never will) as to make the changes imperative, then do it, but not now. We have the short straight road on the south, but we love this delightful winding Polpis road with its vista of sea and town at every turn, always something new to delight the eye instead of a straight line.

I heartily hope it may be possible to preserve it as is, only make a few of the curves wider. California has hundreds of miles of roads over mountains and through valleys, that curve and twist and which are travelled by tens of thousands more than on the Polpis road, but I notice at every curve they make it wide enough to eliminate all danger except for those reckless ones who kill you on a straight road. Pardon my butting in, but Nantucket is now so lovely, so appealing, I hate to see anything done to take away any of its charm.

Very truly yours,

Clarence White.

Bayberry Lodge, 'Seonset.

Nantucket wants this highway to remain as it is, with its beautiful vistas unfolding from each curve and over each rise, whichever way one travels. Widen it where necessary, but in so doing banish the idea that "cuts" and "fills" must be made. Surely the state highway department, even though it may contribute to the cost of widening the Polpis road, will not insist that the work be done contrary to the wishes of the people of Nantucket and especially the summer visitors to whom one of the real delights of Nantucket is this very highway.

Oct. 23, 1937
See also Quaise

Camp David Gray Opened For Fifth Season.

Camp David Gray has opened for the fifth season with its full quota of ten children, which is the camp limit, until hard times and depression are divorced and go their separate ways. No globe-circling travellers ever fared forth with more anticipatory thrills and excitement, than the happy-faced children who started out to Camp, Monday morning, under the care of Miss Ruth Lapham, a graduate of the Children's Hospital in Boston, and an experienced camp nurse.

Arriving under the convoy of proud parents, and surrounded by envious little "stay-at-homes", the children assembled at the starting point in Nantucket, and assisted in stowing away their camp kits in every available space of the car that transports them daily, with all the enthusiasm of a start around the world; twittering and fluttering like a flock of busy little sparrows, until they were tucked safely in, and started for their first day of adventures in the quest of perfect health.

After four instructive years in forming good health habits, Camp David Gray is facing a serious shortage of funds, to carry on this good work for those who need it each summer. The sale of Christmas Seals which is its main source of revenue, while supported loyally by the townspeople, was, as a natural result of the depression, far short of the usual amount.

The Directors feel sure that no visitor to Nantucket would be willing to see this good work of building strong, healthy bodies fail for lack of a little financial aid. Why not visit the Camp on Wauwinet Road, and then follow the dictates of your heart? Every contribution makes it possible to keep the Camp open just that much longer.

At present the funds will not last more than four weeks, instead of the usual six. Please send your checks to William C. Brock, treasurer, Pacific Bank Building.

JULY 23, 1932

"Camp Leedswood" Enterprise Deserves Support.

During the active days of Nantucket's busy summer something has been developing very quietly on this island that is badly needed in a troubled world. It is a little spot, comparatively speaking, but one that is already making evident its strong ideals. It is Camp Leedswood—out on the Polpis road, on the green meadow that slopes into Polpis harbor, away from the town's busy life—a camp well situated for the little children who have come to enjoy its happy benefits with Mr. and Mrs. Ingersoll Day Townsend.

One experiences at Camp Leedswood a spirit of freedom, a sense of co-operation in harmony with restfulness. The sound of laughter and music on the lips of young children brings courage and hope into the hearts of parents and friends who have seen cynicism and despair all around them.

Camp Leedswood is a necessity in summer-time Nantucket. It provides a well-planned, carefully conducted place for young children that is as complete a unit as one could desire. Its object is to promote certain educational growths in a medium of friendly example, counsel and teaching. Its advantages are many-sided and promise wide achievement.

In this typically island spot, true peace and harmony exist along with accomplishment. An endeavor in which idealistic aims and practical service are carefully blended is such a rarity that when an undertaking of this nature is being successfully conducted it is deserving of prompt recognition and support.

In spite of the late start this season, a nucleus of interested and loyal people have given Camp Leedswood their support. It is, indeed, a privilege to support and encourage such an enterprise and the community should aid in making it a fixture here.

Mr. Townsend has had many years' experience in educational work both in this country and abroad. Mrs. Townsend has conducted musical classes on the island for several years, her success being well known. With a knowledge and rare understanding of children they have created an atmosphere of true happiness, bringing out the best in their young friends in an effortless way.

A Children's Fair is to be held at the Camp on August 31st, which will give the public an opportunity to become better acquainted with the place and with Mr. and Mrs. Townsend. It will prove a delightful surprise to a large number in our community who appreciate a splendid idea put into actuality.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Blair,
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Breithut,
Mr. and Mrs. Leeds Mitchell,
Mr. and Mrs. Austin Strong,
Bishop and Mrs. Frank H. Touret,
Mr. and Mrs. H. Emerson Tuttle.

Aug. 24, 1940

Camp Nickanoose Holds Visitors' Day.

Yesterday, Friday afternoon, was greatly enjoyed by the children of Camp Nickanoose, their friends and relatives and all who joined in the gala occasion by watching the little folks as well as the older group of children in their splendid exhibition of physical training under the direction of Frank E. Kitchens.

The singing of the children was very pleasing. Newton Rodeheaver, nephew of the famous Homer Rodeheaver, of Chicago, is the director in this phase of development. During the singing, Charlie Wright and his accordion added to the festivities.

Games were played by the children, and refreshments served by Mrs. Bert Willcox, in honor of the eleventh birthday of her daughter, Helen.

The parents and visitors wandered over the spacious grounds, inspecting the various departments. Special interest was displayed in the Arts and Crafts room, where the children work under the direction of Miss Marie Starbuck Platt, of Nantucket, who holds a Columbia degree for the teaching and supervision of Fine and Practical Arts.

Albert A. May, Director of the Camp, directs all activities in sailing and swimming; Edward H. Alvrens has charge of the boxing and scouting work, assisted by Phil Williams.

During the Circus Ring Floor Show at the Casino, Wednesday night, while "Irene and Frank" were giving their Adagio Dance, many were heard to whisper, "Who are they? Who is she? Where did they come from, the beautiful little dancer and her partner?"

The little dancer was Irene Lauster, pupil of Frank Kitchens, instructor in dancing at Camp Nickanoose.

The two will dance again at the "Neighbors' Festival" on Old North Wharf, Tuesday, August 28th. They will see you there.

Aug. 25, 1934

Our Polpis friends, in a letter published in another column, exhibit a little indignation at portions of the article in last week's issue touching the fire in their village, because we chanced to use the terms "loafing-place" (which they prefer to call "their usual place of meeting," and "rude hut" (known to them as "shanty") in our details of the conflagration. We assuredly did not mean to stigmatize the hard-working people of that locality as "ignorant loafers," and we do not believe that any person in reading the account put such a construction upon our phraseology. Our friends are over-sensitive, that is all; and as far as this particular portion of their letter is concerned, we do not feel they have mended the matter in the least; for they allow they were assembled at "the usual place of meeting," which every person on Nantucket is aware to be the small building formerly occupied by the late James Hazard; and we venture the opinion that it is no more nor less than a loafing-place, and no discredit to the villagers. Upon the account given of the fire we have no comments to make. Our report was gathered hastily, and may, of course, have contained errors in details, which we are only too glad to have truthfully stated.

Jan. 29, 1881

United Effort to Preserve The Polpis Road.

We are glad that so many of the local organizations are showing an interest in the preservation of the natural beauties of the Polpis road and seem so united in the effort to block any movement to straighten that thoroughfare. Realizing that from a surveyor's standpoint, laying out or improving a highway means straightening the lines on the basis that a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, there are, nevertheless, other factors to be considered, and it is upon this point that the Plant Guild, the Historical Society and the Civic League are united.

If the Polpis road is to be widened in certain sections—and we admit that it should be—the work should be done with the idea uppermost in the minds of all that the natural and scenic beauties of the highway must be retained. The winding curves on the road, the bushes and flowers growing by the road-sides, the views which unfold themselves between the hills, must not be lost nor destroyed. Let the state maintain its highway in as near a straight line as possible, if it so desires, thus making the shortest and quickest route across the island, but preserve the longer, prettier Polpis road as it is, disregarding the idea that the straight lines shorten distances.

Letters from the People.

For the Inquirer and Mirror.

NANTUCKET, Feb. 3, 1881.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your last issue I read what was called a true account of the burning of the school-house at Polpis, and as there were a few slight mistakes I would like space enough to rectify them.

As I was returning off Pocomo from a gunning cruise, accompanied by Mr. Sidney Fisher, I saw the school-house in Polpis on fire; as we neared the shanty (a small hut where the male population of the village loaf,) one of the number came out (to use his own expression) to ask us how many ducks we had, and as he came to the door he discovered the school-house on fire and gave the alarm to those inside, whereupon they all started for the scene of action. We passed them a very short distance from the shanty, arrived there, hitched my horse, and was coming out of the door with some books when the first ones appeared. Mr. Fisher and myself brought out and saved the stove without the assistance of any one. I then went in alone and saved a settee and the stove-pipe (which is a very long one) by means of the window, and if it had not been for the repeated warnings from those outside that the roof was falling in I should have saved more. I would like to say for the honor of the Polpis people (who wish the honor to go where it is due) that two of the men ventured in once and brought out a desk near the door. Furthermore, if they had done as much work inside as I did out (where they give me no credit at all), all of the school furniture might have been saved. Honor to whom honor is due.

Respectfully,
JOSEPH M. FOLGER, JR.

"EAT-FIRE" SPRING.—The terribly dry weather of the last four or five months, which has dried up wells, and even ponds which were never known to be dry before, has had no perceptible effect upon the flow of water from this singular spring. We learn from Mr. Albert Easton, the owner of the farm on which the spring breaks from the ground, that the amount of water discharged now is the same as that at any other season; twelve gallons per minute, or five hundred and forty-eight barrels every twenty-four hours.

A daily mail route has been established between Great Point and Nantucket, which passes through Coskaty, Head of the Harbor, Wauwinet, Polpis and Quaise, the station men taking up letters on their way to town. The business has grown rapidly, and has now assumed the proportions of a free express delivery. It is said to be a laughable spectacle to see the parcels, jugs, pails, boxes, etc., hung on the fences along the route, which the driver is expected to stop and gather in. How long this accommodation line will be run is a matter those interested must decide.

Struck by Lightning.

A severe electrical storm, accompanied by heavy rainfall, passed over the island last Saturday, lasting several hours. Shortly after one o'clock a bolt of lightning struck the barn of George E. Mooers, at Polpis, setting it on fire. Word was at once telephoned to town and the auto-chemical started out at once, having a nasty, muddy drive of six miles before the scene was reached. Owing to the condition of the road the chemical could not make much speed, but was on hand before the fire had broken out of the building, and the work of her crew doubtless saved the farm-house from destruction.

The barn contained a large amount of hay and was a roaring furnace for about an hour, when it had burned to the ground, becoming a total loss. Owing to the large body of hay which was burning the chemical was unable to squelch the fire and her efforts were centred on preventing the farm-house from igniting from the intense heat and flying embers. The firemen remained on the property several hours, Chief Norcross not deeming it prudent for the outfit to return to town until it was certain there was no danger of the fire again breaking out. Consequently the chemical and her crew were out of town about four hours, and it was a muddy outfit which made its way home shortly after five o'clock.

Aug. 23, 1914

SERIOUS CONFLAGRATION.—Monday morning the residence of Mr. Benjamin F. Worth, in Polpis, was visited by fire, which proved disastrous in its results. The facts as learned are that Mr. Worth had lighted a fire in a small building, preparatory to killing a hog, sparks from which communicated with the roof of the house. The wind was blowing fresh from the west, and although the utmost exertions were used to subdue the flames, they soon gained such proportions that with the limited means for fighting fire at hand, it was certain that further efforts were futile, and attention was turned to saving household effects; but so rapid was the fire's progress, that only a few articles were rescued, and the agonized owner was compelled to stand by and see his all devoured by the flames, which totally destroyed the house and contents, including a sum of money Mr. Worth had saved since purchasing the farm (the Benjamin Eldridge place) a few years since. It is said that the building was insured for \$300. The neighbors were prompt in offering assistance, and a subscription paper has since been started for the benefit of the unfortunate man, who has the sympathy of the entire community in the severe loss he has sustained.

Nov. 27, 1880



MR. AND MRS. FRED B. MAGLATHLIN

Celebrated Their Twenty-Fifth Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Maglathlin celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage on Friday week by entertaining a few friends at "Hollywood Farm," their home in Polpis. They were married in Beverly, Mass., on December 2, 1924, Mrs. Maglathlin being the former Evelyn Whitney DeLory of that town. She had been a teacher in the Nantucket Schools in 1913-1914, having taught at the Polpis School.

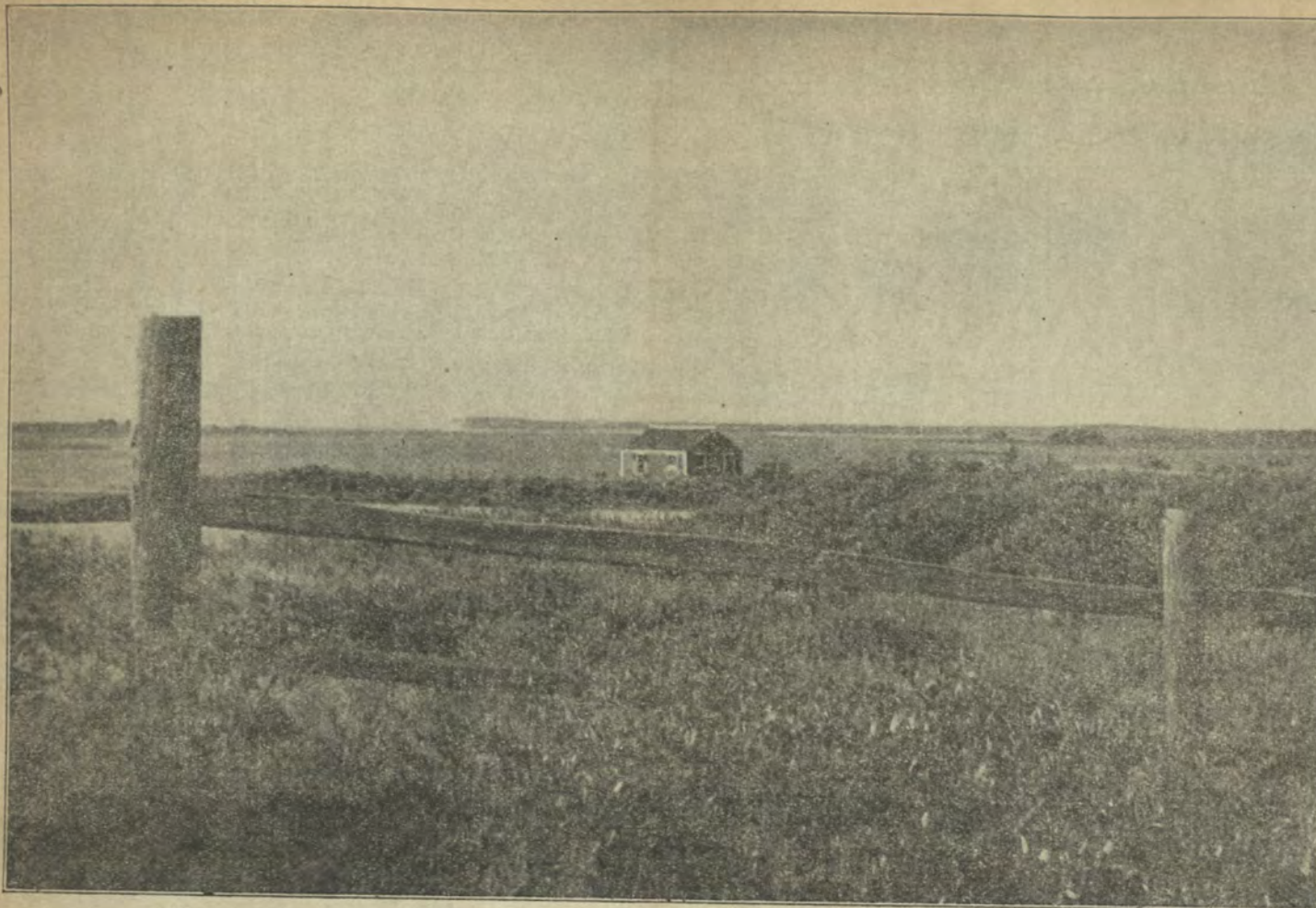
Mr. Maglathlin, who was one of the earliest growers of cranberries in Nantucket, has had an interesting and varied life. He came to Nantucket from Kingston, Mass., where he had been a tack maker and manufacturer, and spent the summer of 1907 here in order to regain his health.

For several summers he ran one of the excursion boats between Nantucket Town and Wauwinet, and then decided to move to the island permanently. Interested in farming, he purchased "Hollywood Farm," in Polpis, where he maintained extensive cranberry bogs in addition to his farm. Since then he has always been among the first to make use of modern appliances and inventions which would further the cranberry business. Several years ago he was the first to make use of the helicopter service in spraying local cranberry bogs. For years he had charge of spraying the roses in 'Sconset for those people who had property under the supervision of Christy Psaradelis and the late Victor Allo.

In addition to these interests, Mr. Maglathlin laid out the first airfield on Nantucket, at Tom Nevers Head, and later planned and supervised the building of Sankaty Head Golf Club. For years he worked with Frederick P. Hill, and the late Mrs. Hill in planning and laying out some of the extensive gardens in 'Sconset.

For twenty years he worked on the Nantucket roads, under ex-Supt. Edward P. Tice, and at one time had charge of the Sanford Fund for the care of Polpis Road and its branches.

Dec. 10, 1949



A View of Polpis Harbor — The November Picture on the 1950 Inquirer and Mirror Calendar.

SCHOOL MATTERS.—The Polpis school was opened in the new schoolhouse Monday. The new building is a neat structure, 19x30 feet, and is in many respects more convenient and commodious than the former one. It is neatly painted, inside and out, and calculated to accommodate fifteen scholars, though its seating capacity can be readily increased at any time.

At a meeting of the School Committee on Tuesday evening it was voted to adopt the following scale for teachers' salaries in the Town schools: High School—principal, \$1000; assistant, \$425; first Grammar, \$375; second Grammar, \$325; first Intermediate, \$300; second Intermediate, \$260; Primary, \$240; Orange Street, mixed,—principal, \$300; assistant, \$150. It was also voted to continue the Polpis school four weeks later than the town schools, to compensate in part for the loss of time occasioned by the burning of the old schoolhouse.—*Journal*.

May 28, 1881

Teachers Wanted

For each of the following suburban schools: Siasconset, Polpis and Tuckernuck. Apply to

ARTHUR H. GARDNER,
Chairman School Committee.
Nantucket, August, 1909.

au7 tf

Aug. 21, 1909

TEACHERS APPOINTED.—Miss Marianna Hussey, daughter of Capt. Edward B. Hussey, Jr., has been appointed as teacher of the school at Polpis, and the term commenced on Monday last.

Apr. 27, 1878

Polpis School—Miss Margaret Ring. Number of scholars—14.

Miss Ring, considering the limited number under her charge and the uncertainty of attendance, has done well. We are glad to see there has been more interest manifested by parents in urging punctual attendance.

March 17, 1951

Recalls Burning of Polpis School Seventy Years Ago.

Editors of *The Inquirer and Mirror*:

Having read the "Mirror" for fifty-four years in Colorado, its arrival is eagerly awaited each week! As soon as dinner is over, the paper is opened, and I am on Nantucket until it is read. So I have an idea of what is going on there.

Historical articles have a deep interest for me. Mr. Edouard Stackpole has brought me much enjoyment through the years. Naturally, the "gam" at the Maria Mitchell Library attracted my attention.

When the question was raised as to the origin of the fire which destroyed the old Polpis schoolhouse, I wished I had been present. I had begun my school teaching in that school in September, 1880. As the year drew to a close, because of some financial reason which I have forgotten, the committee decided to close the school for a short time.

It had been a cold winter; the school house was heated by a large "parlor" stove, using coal, placed in the centre of the room. During November and December there had been days when the coal would not burn well enough to provide sufficient heat to warm the room.

In the wood-shed was a large pile of old shingles, removed from the roof when it was resingled during the previous vacation. So I would use a bunch of these, on top of the coal, to make a quick fire and produce a better draft.

I do not remember just when the school was closed, but should say fully two weeks before the fire which destroyed it.

At 9 p. m. on January 18, 1881, Mr. Steingardt, who owned the Pocomo farm directly across Polpis harbor from the school, was returning from his lane to his house when he saw the flames burst through the roof, at the base of the chimney!

At some later time, perhaps two years, I learned from a neighbor's experience that soot in a chimney can harbor a spark of fire for some weeks before it bursts into flame, if not discovered. And then it caused me to wonder if perhaps the free burning of those shingles might not have ignited the soot in the pipe between stove and chimney, creeping along till it gained force to burst into flame. Presumably the long pipe was so clogged with soot there was not draft enough to keep the coal burning.

Possibly this may be of interest to those who put the question.

Cordially,

Edith Cartwright Pitman.
Box 2000, Colorado Springs, Col.
March 19, 1951.

The Polpis School Difficulty.

For some time past it has been evident that a spirit of discontent was brewing among the parents of the children attending school at Polpis, and within a fortnight this has culminated in a petition to the school committee for the removal of the teacher, Mrs. Woods, on the ground of alleged incompetency, followed by the withdrawal of about half the pupils from school. On Saturday afternoon the committee gave a hearing lasting over three hours to the petitioners and Mrs. Woods at the Selectmen's room, as a result of which they completely exonerate Mrs. Woods. The committee's report which covers seven pages of foolscap reviews in brief the salient points of the evidence adduced at the hearing and concludes as follows:

For nearly six years Mrs. Woods has had charge of the Polpis school, a longer period than any suburban school has been presided over by one teacher for many years, and during that time neither the present board nor preceding ones have had occasion to be other than satisfied with the general condition of the school as ascertained by the occasional inspection possible to bestow upon our suburban schools owing to their remoteness from town. As recently as last summer this school, in common with the rest, was inspected by Mr. G. H. Martin, agent of the State Board of Education, whose special mission was to ascertain the general condition and point out existing defects, and he found no cause for unfavorable comment. The true test of all work is demonstrated by the results attained. At the opening of the spring term the first class was found sufficiently advanced to enter the High school. One only chose to do so, though the other two were equally well qualified. These pupils had received the greater part of their tuition from Mrs. Woods and their ages averaged with those similarly advanced in the town schools. The latter statement will also apply to such of the remaining pupils as have attended regularly.

We find that a number of pupils attend but part of the year and that at best the attendance is very irregular. Upwards of 300 absences among 20 pupils for less than a term, as shown by the register, is demoralizing, not only to the absentees, but to the whole school. Furthermore the result of our investigations suggests that had the desire to assist and cooperate with the teacher always been as manifest and contagious as the spirit of criticism has become of late, the petition upon which we are called to act would never have been framed.

In conclusion we do not find the charge of incompetency sustained and cordially exonerate Mrs. Woods therefrom. We do find however, that the pupils who have attended Polpis school regularly will compare favorably with children of similar age in the town schools, and in this assertion we are supported by the statement of the teacher who "substituted" during Mrs. Woods' sickness. It is therefore unanimously voted that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

On being notified of her vindication and the decision of the committee to retain her in charge of Polpis school, Mrs. Woods promptly tendered her resignation, not caring to continue there longer under the circumstances.

Apr. 24, 1890

Almanac Pond.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

A week or two ago a little squib in your columns, referring to weather conditions, incidentally mentioned the condition of Almanac pond as bearing out its reputation as a weather prophet. A number of persons have referred to the note, and several have sought information as to its location, and from what it derives its name. To get at these facts, I have interviewed some of the older residents of Polpis, in which locality it is situated, and the following is the result of my efforts:

This pond is in a small basin, on the northerly side of Saul's Hills, and is easiest reached via a roadway at right angles with and south of the main county road, nearly opposite the Polpis schoolhouse. Passing through this lane, and by the so-called Sanford farm, it will be found near the corner as the road emerges upon the commons.

Almanac pond is veritably one of Nature's wonders; and from its directly opposite action to all other bodies of fresh water on the island, has always been looked upon by residents of Polpis and all islanders who have known its vagaries, as a reliable weather conditions prognosticator, so far as they bear upon drouth or wet seasons. From this fact it has derived its name of Almanac pond.

Last year, it will be recalled, was a particularly dry one, the rainfall being far below normal. And all the time, while its big neighbors were at very low ebb, little Almanac was full to overflowing. This season has been the reverse, with rainfall far above normal; consequently little Almanac pond is as "dry as a contribution box."

Why these conditions obtain I have never heard anyone attempt to explain—in fact, little attention has been paid to the matter. But really, is it not worth while looking into this phenomenon? If this perchance reaches the eye of any reader who has further information to impart, will he not send it to you, Mr. Editor? Or, should any person have knowledge of any tradition concerning this matter, I trust he will come forward with it.

It is one of the wonders of our island (like Eat-fire Spring), and may be made an interesting feature for tourists as well as scientists if all the facts can be gathered and posted on its shores, that he who runs may read.

Roland B. Hussey.
Nantucket, Nov. 6, 1919.

Social Gathering.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Coffin met at their home in Polpis Wednesday evening, and had a most enjoyable time. Music, singing and dancing was on the programme. Some of the party had to walk to town, owing to the sickness of one of the horses, which finally died. The horse belonged to Mr. Henry Crocker. It is the tenth one he has lost since he has been in business.

Exercises at Polpis.

The Polpis and 'Sconset schools were visited on Thursday week by a delegation from the local Grand Army post and several members of the school board. The veterans entertained the children with anecdotes of war times. The program rendered at Polpis was as follows:

"My own United States," by the school; "The Veteran's Welcome," by Emily Gordon; "Soldier Boy," by Alcon Chadwick; "A Soldier's Memory," by George Cornell; "Red, White and Blue," by Mary Peaner; "The Prisoner's Hope," by the school; "The Flag is There," by Mildred Heighton; "The Minstrel Boy," by Carl Wyer; "I'd Like to be a Soldier," by Stuart Chadwick; "Flag of the Free," by Catherine Gordon; "Tenting to Night," by the school; "Bugle's Call," by Harry Gordon; "The Soldier's Poem," by Kenneth Maclathlin; "Look on Our Flag," by Linda Chadwick; "Mother, Can I go?" by Allen Backus; "Mother's Reply," by Emma Wyer; "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," by school and audience.

Christmas Exercises at Polpis.

Pupils of the Polpis school, with their teacher, Miss Eldora Fisher, arranged and carried out an exceedingly interesting program, on Wednesday. Friends from town and Polpis were present, including the six months-old twins of Mr. and Mrs. Heighton. Refreshments were served. The following program was rendered:

"Nearer My God to Thee,"	School
Reading—"The Birth of Christ,"	Carl Wyer
"A Dear Old Traveller,"	Harry Gordon
"Christmas is Here,"	Winifred Heighton
"A Christmas Carol,"	Catherine Gordon
"I Need Thee Every Hour,"	School
Reading—"Tiny Tim's Christmas Dinner,"	Allen Backus
"Christmas,"	Stuart Chadwick
"Christmas Cheer,"	Frank Heighton
Reading—"Piccola,"	Emily Gordon
Song—"Once in Royal David City,"	School
"Comes the Christ Child Gentle,"	Alcon Chadwick
"A Virgin Unspotted,"	Allen Backus
Reading—"A Christmas Tree,"	Catherine Gordon
"The Holly and the Ivy,"	Carl Wyer
"The Seven Joys of Mary,"	Emily Gordon
"Little Christmas Carolers,"	Stuart Chadwick, Harry Gordon, Alcon Chadwick
"Jesus Bids Us Shine,"	School

For The Inquirer and Mirror.

Mr. Editor:

It was with most sincere regret that the intelligence of the resignation of Miss Annie Ayers, as teacher of the Polpis school, was received by the residents of Polpis and vicinity. The school has been most nobly conducted under her management, and she has endeared herself to both children and parents. A more conscientious and efficient teacher it will be hard to find. Continued ill health, which has necessitated her leave of absence at different times, has compelled her to give up for a year, at least, her chosen life work. In two of her leaves of absence she has been ably substituted by Miss Lutie Coffin of the Coffin school, and by Miss Cassine Brown of the High school. It is the earnest wish of the parents in Polpis to see Miss Ayers reinstated after she regains her health.

ONE OF THEM.

Huskings.

The harvest season has ushered in the annual "husking-bees," and the farmers at the east end of the island, and their friends, have had regular old-fashioned good times.

On Wednesday evening of last week a company of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gibbs, 2d, treated them to a surprise party at their home at Pocomo, and taking possession of the premises, husked out all the corn that had recently been harvested, when they repaired to the house and proceeded to do justice to the good things they had brought with them. Barrett's orchestra was present and gave the party their fill of music, to which old and young danced to their heart's content.

On Monday evening last the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Coffin, at Polpis, was the scene of another gay time. There was about one hundred guests present, who were royally entertained. Steven's orchestra furnished the music, and the company enjoyed themselves, the festivities being kept up until a late hour.

A husking party was held at the farm of George W. Norcross at Polpis, Thursday afternoon and evening. A number of young people from town were present, and red ears were numerous.

Oysters

from POLPIS HARBOR

For sale at James Andrews' market, Old North Wharf, any day during the week. Orders by mail will be filled promptly.

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Reminiscences of the Winter of 1856-7.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

We see much in our papers about this severe, cold winter, and many say it never was so cold, but I remember well the winter of 1856-7. It was early in November that we had the first cold spell and not until March did we have much of a let-up.

I was living in Polpis village. My father was Capt. Charles Pitman. As it was customary to let the turnips remain in the ground until after the first frost, he did so, but soon found he must dig them or else not be able to.

It was unusual for snow to remain long on Nantucket and if we wanted a sleigh-ride we would have to hurry and go, or else we would come back on bare ground. It was not so in the winter of 1856-7. The snow was so deep we could not see the fences, and in going to town we had to guess at times where to go.

At first the Polpis people all turned out and dug from Squam to Jacob Gibbs' corner where Quaise road comes, but they soon found out they could ride on the snow without breaking through, it was frozen so hard.

About the middle of December the harbor began to freeze up, and I am quite sure it was the third week it closed. There was much interest shown at this time about its freezing, as Lizzie Allen, who lived on Main street, in the Alfred Folger house, was to be married to Asa Gifford, of New Bedford. His brother came down to attend the wedding, but the bridegroom had to wait, owing to his suit not being finished.

The boat got out and a storm came which delayed her in Hyannis, making it so the ice formed too thick to cross. It was six weeks before there was any boat to come, and when she did she came to Great Point.

We had coasting parties all winter, either on Henry Swain's hill, Alexander Macy's or Jacob Gibbs' hill. Uncle Edward Ray used the bottom of his big sleigh for his sled and could take quite a crowd down.

The afternoon the boat was sighted from "the tower" we saw sleighs go by, so knew there was something coming and we were watching close for them to come back. It was a perfect night, the moon shone clear, and with the snow it seemed as light as day.

We decided to go on Alexander Macy's hill and got to it by going up Uncle Obed Bunker's lane, or could go by climbing fences and going across lots. It was about 8 p. m. when we heard sleigh bells and what a scramble! Julius Swain grabbed my hand and we started on the run. Over fences we flew, so as to get to the road and learn the news. I tore the front of my dress, but I did not stop and was just in time to call out, "Did the bridegroom come?"

"No," came back the answer, "Only one passenger, Amelia Ayers."

"Did you bring any food?" "Yes, in one of the sleighs there is some."

We were glad of that, as food was getting short. I remember some of the farmers had to borrow some grain, but fuel was plenty, as much peat was used; also hard wood in air-tight stoves.

My Uncle Roland Coleman always used it in their front room and only burned coal in the back room grate.

The "Island Home" returned after stopping long enough to leave the passengers and food. It used to be the custom to see there was enough to last in case the harbor closed. There was more farming done in those days than now.

I should think the islanders would again stock the commons with sheep. Surely, there is a chance for some of them to make money by it, at little expense.

Thanking you in advance for the space in your interesting paper, I am
Yours respectfully,

Mrs. A. C. Goebell.

(Formerly Abbie C. Pitman.)

Brockton, Mass.

FEBRUARY 16, 1918

Polpis Village Still Retains Its Old-Time Charm.

The little village of Polpis has its individual appeal, both winter and summer, but this year it appears to be more attractive than ever. The Bassett Jones estate, with its growing young pines surrounding the house, is the object of admiring glances; "Leedswood" Farm is now Camp Nickanoose and a busy place, indeed; the old village schoolhouse has undergone a transformation, having recently been built over into an eight-room house for Mrs. Atkinson by Elmore Swain's carpenters; the Ellinger estate, formerly farm property, has become a distinctive dwelling, ship-shape and sturdy; the gardens of Harry Dunham's farm look fresh and green, while Mr. Dunham's new house is rapidly nearing completion; and the King estate, with its surrounding trees, looks cool and inviting.

Across the road, where the Marshall house fits well into the skyline, the old lane leads back, past the Hidden Forest to the Grout estate and the low hills beyond, remaining unchanged in appearance from year to year. The lovely stretch of green known as the "Forest" has its old cannon on guard. David Gray's little house sits on a knoll, facing the east, while some distance away, across the cranberry patch and over the stile, is Mr. Gray's studio.

Then we come to Squantum Farm, the most unique spot in the village. In a little old farmhouse live Mr. and Mrs. Webster, proprietors of the well-known antique and gift shop. The business is conducted in the old barn, close by, and everyone who has entered there has been impressed by the display. Old glass and silver vie with each other for attention. Well-kept old pieces occupy strategic bits of floor space, and the eye is continually caught by something not taken in at the first survey. In the next room are the gifts, modest pieces and extensive sets, in an appealing variety.

The house is the oldest in Polpis, a substantial structure nearly two hundred years old, with a massive chimney that provides a fire-place for every room. The old well still stands sentinel at the kitchen door, and the evening sunset paints a lovely picture from the windows on the west side.

Back in the days when 'Sconset was merely a collection of fishermen's huts and the settlement on the sloping hills of Wesco was spreading on the south beach of the "great harbor," the little community at Polpis had already been established for two decades. The oldest house in the village, the old Swain place, was the site of a number of weddings, and on the two little brooks, that wound through the meadows to the harbor, stood two mills—a grist mill and a fulling mill.

With the rise of Sherburne Town as a whaling port, the settlement at Polpis remained in quiet seclusion. It did contain a tavern, however, where travelers might stop on the road for refreshments, (though it was not the house of joy described by Crèvecoeur.) For years it was the only large village outside of Sherburne, finally being surpassed by 'Sconset, the "summer resort" for those in Sherburne.

For many years Polpis was the rendezvous of a group of retired whaling masters. When these grizzled mariners, veterans of the storms of most of the seven seas, decided to "stay ashore" for the remainder of their days, they would buy a farm at "Podpis" and spend their declining days in a happy comfort. Like the old Dutch patroons in the Hudson valley, they found a genuine contentment in the contemplation of tilled acres, and lived to a good old age.

Time was when Polpis had more farms than there are houses now in the village. A schoolmarm taught in the little schoolhouse, and there was a "round-house" where the men folks met of an evening, to sit and smoke and discuss the affairs of the day. This place was called the "Senate," and a large stone boulder still marks the original site of this little building. Peat was dug from the swamps; the harbor yielded plenty of shellfish, and isolation by winter snows was not out of the ordinary.

But the little community perhaps never looked so "spruced up" as it does today. If some of those old retired skippers and old-time farmers could, like Rip Van Winkle, stroll down the south lane some day, they would rub their eyes and do a might of staring. But, to a man, they would agree that it is all most pleasant, and entirely "home-like."

Preserve "The Winding Roads Through The Moors".

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

A number of our permanent visitors have expressed to me a regret which I find to be my own. Since I am not alone in this, I think the matter ought to be brought to public attention.

This has to do with the "straightening" of the Polpis road. The indications are that this work has been laid out without the slightest regard for the natural beauties of the existing road or its environs. The widening of the road is necessary because of its popularity. Why is it popular? Because of its natural picturesqueness—"the winding road through the moors."

So a group of men whose one idea is scientific road-making are set at it to ruin the very qualities that delight the driver. I protest! If "improvements" on Nantucket continue to spoil the very things that bring us to the island, it is only a matter of time when Nantucket will become just another "resort", and those people who have come to the island to live or to spend much of their time (and money) there, and to whom I believe the island owes more of its permanent prosperity than it does to the larger group of transients composing the season "rush", will tire of this perpetual destruction of natural beauty.

There is no possible reason why the Polpis Road should be slashed through the hills regardless, resulting in a permanent disfigurement of the landscape. True, there are one or two curves that are hazardous, but these could be easily smoothed out sufficiently, and the obstructions to proper vision reduced, without ruining sites and at less expense than the work now programmed.

I hope that all those interested in preserving the natural beauty of the island will take a hand in this protest. Is there no way in which such a wretched injury can be prevented before it is too late?

Very truly yours,
Bassett Jones.

[For the Inquirer and Mirror]

A Boy on a Polpis Farm.

In the latter part of January, 1862, a week or a fortnight after completing my school life, I went to East Bridgewater to stay with my sister while her husband, Capt. Charles E. Allen, was absent on a six months voyage as master of the merchant ship "Richard Mitchell," to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres in South America.

Captain Allen, Nantucket born, a son of Captain Walter Allen, was one of the eventful and successful captains of whale-ships sailing from Nantucket and New Bedford. Beginning at the bottom he had steadily gained until he reached the top, and he had made many voyages at sea. Tiring of that life he thought, as many another mistakenly had, that he would like to forsake it and devote his remaining years to farming. He bought a farm in East Bridgewater and with his family moved there to till it.

In a very short time he discovered to himself, born of experience, that he could command and navigate a ship around the world, but that he could not cultivate a small part of the world sectionized as a farm. So the merchant voyage as mentioned was arranged and entered upon. I had been in East Bridgewater but a short time (Captain Allen had sailed on his voyage) when I learned of a plan to which I was a party, but relative to which I had not been consulted.

Father had arranged with Captain Allen for me to go with him on that voyage, and the father and mother of Captain Allen were to go to East Bridgewater to stay with my sister. I never learned why the plan failed, but just before the time for sailing the older Allens decided they could not do as had been arranged, so I was sent in their stead.

Fortunate for me that those well laid plans "fell through," for I had decided aversion to see life, and to have been an unwilling "green" sailor on that voyage would have been to me a most serious affair. Not knowing of that pre-conceived arrangement until after the ship had sailed I was glad beyond expression that it had not been perfected. I had been in East Bridgewater but three weeks when "Grandpa and Grandma Allen," as we called them, decided that they would go to East Bridgewater to remain until the return of Captain Allen from the voyage, and upon their arrival there I was "sent back home."

A week or two after my return to Nantucket I learned that Capt. Charles Swain wanted a boy to live with him on his farm at Polpis. It was only for a short engagement. Henry McCann was my informant—a boy who had lived with Captain Swain—and to me he said that the position had been offered him, but that he did not want it. He took occasion to tell me that Captain Swain was rather a hard man to work for, and suggested to me that perhaps I would like the job, and I was instantly sure that I would. He said that the service was for a week, and that for compensation a "bag of flour" would be given.

I was anxious to "go to work," and that suggestion to me was as tempting as it was anticipated. I was then less than two months past my thirteenth birthday, but immediately went home, told mother of the proposition and asked her if I might accept it. She not only gave her consent, but heartily encouraged me in my purpose, and told me that if I went and was obedient to Captain Swain that I would "get along all right."

It was Captain Swain's day for "coming to town," and I hurried to lower Orange street, near Consue, to await him. I sought that particular locality so as to catch him as he came driving by, whether he kept straight up Orange street or turned through Consue. For an hour or more I patiently waited, and then I saw him coming. I called to him my errand as he passed; he did not stop, but gave an encouraging wave with his hand.

I knew that he put up his horse and got his mid-day lunch at the home of Mrs. Paulina Nickerson, on Pleasant street, and there I went, met him and concluded the bargain. Service for a week, a bag of flour for pay! To me that was then an important contract, as it was my first bargain in engaging in employment for myself. The reason for that particular compensation was that Captain Swain took his farm products to the store, receiving groceries in exchange.

Captain Swain had a faithful old horse—graciously I remember "Dolly"—which he was accustomed to harness to a loaded cart of garden truck at the farm and send her off alone to town. She was a sleek, handsome animal. At the "Douglas corner," one mile from town, where the road turns onto lower Orange street, someone, as pre-arranged, was there to meet the horse with her load and deliver it as had been directed. This had happened on the day of which I write, and that particular horse and cart was "in town" and was at the Nickerson home when I went there. George Nickerson, a brother who lived with his sister Paulina, had a shop in the yard, where he did carriage, cart and similar repairing. He was to make repairs to the cart on that day before the faithful horse should be headed homeward.

After I had engaged my services to Captain Swain, he told me that he must return home "right after dinner," and he directed me, when the repairs to the cart had been made and the horse harnessed, to "just get in, let the horse alone," and she would go directly home. An ideal plan, surely, as I recall it. Four o'clock was the hour named when all would be done and in readiness for me to start for the farm, so home I went, and told my mother of the trade which I had perfected. She fixed up a little bundle of "belongings" for me, and I was back at the Nickerson home before four o'clock. But it was long after five o'clock before that cart was ready, the team harnessed, and I started for a new home which I had never seen nor knew not as to its location. I was admonished to "let the horse alone" and she would take me to the farm. But thirteen years

of age, my immature judgment was that, as directed, I must let the horse alone in its fullest reality, and I did not dare to even urge her out of a walk, covering that seven miles of distance, lest I should unduly interfere with her and she would lose her way. It was the first of March (I think the second day), the days were lengthening, yet the shades came early, and it was black dark, and I alone on that lonesome road, before I reached my unknown destination between seven and eight o'clock.

The farm of Captain Swain was about in the middle of the village of Polpis, situated a short distance in from the main road on the east side of a lane nearly opposite the school-house. I do not know, guess I never did know, the acreage of the farm. It was quite extensive, however, with outlying lots south and east of the home plot, and a wooded lot, which we called the "west lot," somewhat removed from it. Next to "our" farm up the hill was the then unoccupied farm of Gardner Coffin, while still further on, down a slight descent and on the opposite side of the lane was the farm of Edward Chase.

On the Swain farm, where I went so early to live, there was a large house, a commodious barn, and numerous other farm buildings. The live stock was a herd of ten or twelve cows, three horses, with pigs in the pen and a large flock of roaming poultry. I was immediately initiated into farm work, and soon became quite proficient in its performance. I started in, following my first night's sleep in that little attic chamber where I afterwards passed so many nights, tired with each recurring day's work, lulled quickly to sleep by the swaying boughs of the willow tree which swept across the roof above me.

My first week up, for which I had engaged myself, and my work having proven satisfactory, Captain Swain asked me to stay through the season. He agreed to pay me three dollars and a half a month, which I could have in produce from the farm to take to "my people in town." I agreed to stay and did stay; the bag of flour I never got, as my wages at the price just given was set back to cover the week which I had already put in. So I began on the farm, and so I continued through that spring, summer and into the late fall, when I returned to my home in town for the winter.

Arising at about four o'clock, chores engaged our attention for about two hours. First came the milking, which I soon learned, and in a short time milked my assignment of cows, Captain Swain taking his, and each had an equal number to care for twice a day. That morning exercise over, the cows had to be gotten away to pasture, which was at "Plainfield," about a mile east from our farm. The cows of several of the farms were herded together, and the "boy on the farm," each in turn for a week, had this not altogether desirable job to do.

As directed by Captain Swain, I sometimes rode a colt "bare back," an experience which I did not relish. Open corn fields, of which there were a number, en route to that pasture, made a trying experience for the driver of the herd in keeping the cows in the roadway and away from the alluring fresh growing corn-blades. Back from that service, the barn had to be cleansed and put in condition for the return of the cattle in the late afternoon. There were horses to groom, stables to care for, and many other "little farm duties," all classified as "chores."

To "keep peace in the home" the fuel box must needs be not forgotten, else there was immediate trouble. After these numerous pleasant exercises breakfast was in order, and I was ready for it. About six o'clock we started the regular work of the day—"beginning the day's work" Captain Swain called it. General farming as ordinarily understood, was the work of each succeeding day, Captain Swain then having the merited reputation of having one of the neatest farms and being one of the best farmers on the island.

We did not have the modern farm implements, in those days, and all our work was by the old-fashioned methods. I remember that the mowing-machine had only recently been invented and put in use on the farm. Benjamin Eldridge, one of the neighboring farmers, had one, and for consideration he assisted the farmers of the village in that line of farm work.

Captain Swain the season I was with him planned on a raise of two hundred bushels of shelled corn. To produce this he ploughed up a large area of out-lying land, arranging with the owner for its use, and I well remember that field just outside of Polpis beside the road to Quidnet. The compensation with the owner of the land was that, at the time of harvest, every fourth row of the tall grown corn should be left for him and for his pleasure in cutting at the harvesting time. Thus the owner got one-quarter of the product for the use of his land.

I clearly recall how we started work that spring—my first experience in helping lay out a large corn-field. With one horse harnessed to the cart, wherein were the plough and other farming implements, and another horse in lead, we went to that unbroken tract of land. There the two horses were harnessed to the plough and placed in position to start and break up and prepared the ground for planting.

Captain Swain in a straight line paced off a long distance, I following him, with a hoe in hand, when he stopped and placed me in position and directed me to hold as high as I could the hoe above my head. Returning to the plough he started his horses, with his eye on me, keeping me in range between the two horses, and thus he turned and made straight the first turned furrow. He then followed that one, back and forth, until the whole field was finely ploughed, the sod below, and the soft loam on top presented an excellent appearance for the purpose to which it was to be put.

After two furrows had been turned I then began, under instruction and by direction, with a hoe as shown, to dig "corn-hills." This was done on every other of those freshly turned furrows, and were dug about two feet apart. Into each of those hills we dropped four or five kernels of seed-corn, and then with horse attached to an iron-tooth harrow the field was mellowed to a rich softness, the dropped corn being in that way covered. We made a large preparatory field, such as I have described, within the limit of the day's work. All through the season this work had to be often followed with the cultivator and the hoe before corn was ready for harvest.

It was rigorous service, pretty hard on a boy of thirteen years, yet I soon learned how to do it, and "tackled it" with all the youthful vim at my command. Upon engaging myself for labor on that farm I had determined to "make good" and persistently carried out that intention. Our daily exercise, which I soon acquired, I as eagerly looked for.

Starting off for a day's work at about six o'clock in the morning, to plow such a corn-field as I have mentioned, or in any line of work on succeeding days, we invariably took the dinner box with us, and "lunched and dined on the premises." Sometimes our work would be near enough to our home to get dinner there. At work on the large open field there was a line of exercise, coming at about ten o'clock in the forenoon, for which I soon learned eagerly to look.

About that time, with positive regularity, Captain Swain would go to the cart, distant on the field, look at his watch, take out that dinner box, and beckon to me from across the field. I was always on hand and the "hunk" of gingerbread then handed me tasted better than any delicacy (of which I have had many through the years since) I have ever eaten.

The usual farm routine work was our portion; the various kinds of vegetables were raised, corn being our staple product. Ditches across low lands had to be occasionally dug out, to permit free passage of water, and at what we called our "west lot," a little distance west from our farm plot, directly back of the farm of Henry Swain, brother of Charles, there was some cutting of brush for fire-wood. It was all hard work, and a plenty always at hand.

J. E. C. Farnham.

Providence, R. I.

1913 (To Be Continued)

June 14, 1913

The following has just been told to us, and although it appears rather late, may still be of interest to our readers. On Christmas eve about fifty of the good people of Polpis assembled in the school house at that place to enjoy the fun attendant upon a Christmas tree, and whatever other exercises should be offered. The tree itself was loaded with presents, care having been taken that each pupil should receive something. The teacher, Miss Margaret Ring, was made the recipient of a neat writing desk—the gift of her pupils, which was something of a surprise. Frederick Parker, the Hermit of Quidnet, was present on this occasion, and Farmer Swain escorted him to the desk, where he made a few remarks and sang some old-time songs, to the great delight of his listeners, who were highly gratified with their evening social. It is seldom that the good people of that farming village rise up in any such undertaking, and the rarity of the occasions must add greatly to the pleasure they bring to each and all.

Work on Polpis Road Completed This Week.

John C. Ring, the contractor who has been doing the joint work for the town and state on Polpis road, finished the job this week, the amount of money available under the joint appropriation having built a piece of excellent oil road from the junction of the state highway nearly to the end of the pines approaching the Mooney farm.

It is as nice a piece of road as one can find anywhere and Mr. Ring is receiving compliments on every side for the character of the work which he has done. The only regret is that more road could not have been built this year.

However, it is a step in the right direction and we trust that a much longer stretch will be built next year—in fact, we learn that a proposition will be put before the advisory committee next February to recommend that the road be continued until it joins the section at Norwood built a number of years ago and known locally as "the Sullivan road."

To be sure, this would require quite a large appropriation, but we understand that the state is willing to again meet the town on a "fifty-fifty" basis. If so, there is a proposition for the advisory committee to consider—as it doubtless will—for it has become to be generally acknowledged that Polpis road should be rebuilt permanently, so as to stop the waste of money made there yearly for the last thirty years with such unsatisfactory results.

The short section of oil road built by Mr. Ring some ten years ago at the junction of Polpis road and the state highway has shown that a permanent piece of road requires no further attention—at least, it has not needed any for ten years, and is still in excellent condition. Presumably this stretch just completed will give just as good service. If another year the gap could be closed between the new road and that at Norwood, it would mean that five or six miles of the Polpis road would require no further attention or expense and would afford good travelling between town and the village at all seasons of the year.

It was through the activity of Representative Jones that the state offered to meet the town half-way on the cost of the new Polpis road this year, and the state and town each paid \$2,500 for the work. Representative Jones, when last in conversation with the Highway Commissioners, was assured that the state would continue the plan and it was even hinted that the state would be very desirous of having a larger section built another year.

With the possibility of thus getting the Polpis road rebuilt permanently at "half cost," the town of Nantucket should stretch itself as much as possible financially, even if it means curtailing in other directions. To start to build nine miles of road and bear the expense itself would seem to be quite a burden, but when the state offers to bear half the expense, it is a proposition that should receive all due consideration.

The Starbuck farm at Polpis, recently owned by Marcel Gouin, was sold at auction Saturday by A. M. Myrick, under a power of mortgage, for \$500, it being understood that there was a first mortgage of \$800 upon the estate. It used to be considered the largest and one of the very best farms on the island.

Aug. 2, 1901



Green Acres Rest Home

For chronic and convalescent patients.

ETHEL MOONEY, R. N.
Telephone 555 Polpis Road
je1-tf

June 15, 1935

Polpis School-house Property Brought \$1,000.

The Polpis school-house property (land and buildings) was sold at public auction, Monday afternoon, for \$1,000, the purchaser being Harry Dunham, who owns Greenwood Farm property which adjoins the school-house land. There was quite a gathering at the auction, but bidding did not prove spirited and there was little of interest, the sale being closed in very few minutes.

Aug. 11, 1928

Exercises at Polpis.

The Polpis and 'Sconset schools were visited on Thursday week by a delegation from the local Grand Army post and several members of the school board. The veterans entertained the children with anecdotes of war times. The program rendered at Polpis was as follows:

"My own United States," by the school; "The Veteran's Welcome," by Emily Gordon; "Soldier Boy," by Alcon Chadwick; "A Soldier's Memory," by George Cornell; "Red, White and Blue," by Mary Peaner; "The Prisoner's Hope," by the school; "The Flag is There," by Mildred Heighton; "The Minstrel Boy," by Carl Wyer; "I'd Like to be a Soldier," by Stuart Chadwick; "Flag of the Free," by Catherine Gordon; "Tenting to Night," by the school; "Bugle's Call," by Harry Gordon; "The Soldier's Poem," by Kenneth Maclathlin; "Look on Our Flag," by Linda Chadwick; "Mother, Can I go?" by Allen Backus; "Mother's Reply," by Emma Wyer; "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," by school and audience.

Polpis School Discontinued.

The school board has decided to discontinue the Polpis school, and the six or seven pupils from that village will be brought to town daily to continue their studies. The school authorities have determined that about \$200 can be saved the town annually by transporting the pupils instead of hiring a teacher and conducting the village school. A contract has been placed with Miss Cora Stevens for transporting the pupils, and she will make the run out to the village in her Buick sedan each morning, bringing the pupils to school and taking them out again after the day's session.

May 15, 1920

AT POLPIS.

The Polpis school-house was very prettily decorated with evergreen and flowers on Thursday afternoon, when the parents and friends of the pupils assembled to listen to an entertainment prepared for the celebration of Columbus Day. The programme consisted of songs and recitations suited to the occasion. The singing was a very pleasing feature, and the recitations were rendered in a manner that showed that the children entered into the spirit of the day. The teacher, Miss Annie C. Ayers, is entitled to praise for devising this entertainment for the benefit of the residents of Polpis. An hour was very pleasantly spent, and will long be remembered by all who participated in it.



POLPIS ROAD WHEN SULLIVAN QUIT THE JOB.

A view of the end of Sullivan's construction on the Polpis road in 1913, taken in front of the Polpis school-house. These two photographs of the road were submitted by the town as evidence at the hearing before the Auditor.

PREACHING at POLPIS.

THERE will be preaching at Polpis School-house, Sunday, April 11, at 2 o'clock. Text 24 Corinthians, 4th chapter, last word of 3d verse. Public cordially invited.

ALBERT EASTON.

Apr. 26, 1897

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Coffin has sold to G. Herbert Brinton, "Spotswood" farm, in the village of Polpis. This is one of the best farm properties on the island and includes a large tract known as "Swain's Neck," on Polpis harbor, with nearly a mile of shore line, an excellent place for clamming, gunning and boating. Next season Mr. Brinton will probably make some improvements. A dwelling house and barn are on the place, which can be made very attractive with some additions.

July 2, 1910

School Transportation Bids

Bids for the transportation of pupils between Nantucket and Sconset and Polpis, and for the transportation of pupils to and from the Hummock Pond section, will be received up to 7:00 o'clock Monday evening, August 27th.

Specifications may be obtained from Archibald Cartwright.

J. R. Burgess,
Supt. of Schools.

aug11-3t

Aug. 18, 1928

Up to 1902, the oldest house on the island was unquestionably that originally built and occupied by John Swain, one of the primitive settlers, who, after living for a number of years near the south head of Hummock pond, bought land at Polpis in 1680, and afterwards built the house now under consideration. Unfortunately the house was destroyed by a thunderstorm in 1902, so that I have not had an opportunity of examining it, but, from a photograph I have seen, the house appears to have been a simple lean-to of one story, with a brick chimney, as usual, at the west end. On the east end a smaller lean-to was erected subsequently, and, still later, another was built on the west end.

I believe the original house was erected before the last decade of the seventeenth century, soon after the purchase of the land, but it is impossible to say definitely, under the circumstances, as an examination of the interior is no longer practicable. The house was evidently built on the ground and without a foundation. Many inaccuracies have appeared with regard to the year in which this house was built.

THE OLDEST HOUSE.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—John Swain, Jr., the first male white child of the island, was born in the year 1664, and tradition, undisputed, tells us that he was born in the George Swain house, at Polpis. If the tradition of the place can be depended on with as much certainty as the date of his birth, it may settle the question, which is the oldest house?

Whether the Polpis house has always been in the Swain family or not, the county records alone can tell. George Swain purchased the property of Thankful Swain, a widow, in 1815, and held it while he lived. CHARLES F. SWAIN.
BROOKLYN, Oct. 11th, 1866.

Christmas Exercises at Polpis.

The pupils of the Polpis school surprised their teacher, Miss Eldora Louisa Fisher, on Wednesday, when she arrived in the village, by conducting her to a prettily decorated school room. They had been astir early, and had decorated the room, the teacher's desk and their own desks with holly and green, taken from the near-by swamps.

Amid the green on Miss Fisher's desk, were to be found mysterious packages of all sizes and shapes, tied with Christmas ribbons. After the following program was rendered, Miss Fisher treated the children to a feast of Christmas dainties.

Song by School
"Jesus Bids Us Shine,"
"The Xmas Tree," George Cornell
"Come, Ye Faithful," Allan Backus
"Sing This Blessed Morn," Edward Chadwick
"Christmas Is So Long Coming," Catherine Gordon
"If I Had Lived In Bethlehem," Carl Wyer
"While Shepherds Watched," Emily Gordon
"Mistletoe and Holly," Emma Wyer
"Hark to the Glad Story," Linda Chadwick
"Christmas Morn," Edgar Wyer
"I'd Tell You What I'd Like to Be On Every Xmas Morn," Benjamin Gilliam, Stuart Chadwick, Harry Gordon and Alcon Chadwick
Song, "Once in Royal David City."

Dec. 25, 1909

SUSTAINED THE TEACHER.—There has been trouble brewing in Polpis as regards school matters, and it resulted in a petition being sent to the School Committee, asking for the removal of the teacher, Mrs. P. A. Woods, on the ground of incompetency, and the withdrawal of about one-half the school membership. Last Saturday the committee gave a hearing at the Selectmen's room, the result of which was the complete exoneration of Mrs. Woods, and leave to withdraw on the part of the petitioners. Upon being thus vindicated, Mrs. Woods resigned, not caring to continue longer under the circumstances. The committee's report concluded as follows:

For nearly six years Mrs. Woods has had charge of the Polpis school, a longer period than any suburban school has been presided over by one teacher for many years, and during that time neither the present board nor preceding ones have had occasion to be other than satisfied with the general condition of the school as ascertained by the occasional inspection possible to bestow upon our suburban schools owing to their remoteness from town. As recently as last summer, this school, in common with the rest, was inspected by Mr. G. H. Martin, agent of the State Board of Education, whose special mission was to ascertain the general condition and point out existing defects, and he found no cause for unfavorable comment. The true test of all work is demonstrated by the results attained. At the opening of the spring term the first class was found sufficiently advanced to enter the High school. One only chose to do so, though the other two were equally well qualified. These pupils had received the greater part of their tuition from Mrs. Woods and their ages averaged with those similarly advanced in the town schools. The latter statement will also apply to such of the remaining pupils as have attended regularly.

We find that a number of pupils attend but part of the year and that at best the attendance is very irregular. Upwards of 300 absences among 20 pupils for less than a term, as shown by the register, is demoralizing, not only to the absentees, but to the whole school. Furthermore, the result of our investigations suggests that had the desire to assist and co-operate with the teacher always been as manifest and contagious as the spirit of criticism has become of late, the petition upon which we are called to act would never have been framed.

In conclusion we do not find the charge of incompetency sustained and cordially exonerate Mrs. Woods therefrom. We do find, however, that the pupils who have attended Polpis school regularly will compare favorably with children of similar age in the town schools, and in this assertion we are supported by the statement of the teacher who "substituted" during Mrs. Woods's sickness. It is therefore unanimously voted that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Apr. 26, 1890

FIRE.—Tuesday evening, Joseph M. Folger, Jr., and Sidney V. Fisher, while driving in from a gunning expedition on Pocomo, discovered fire issuing from a building in Polpis when some distance away, and drove rapidly toward it. Upon nearing it they made out that the flames proceeded from the schoolhouse. In a small hut, used by the male population of the village as a loafing place, were gathered about a dozen persons, and as the couple drove by, they shouted to the inmates that their academy was burning, and kept on to the scene. Mr. Folger broke down one of the doors, and found a fierce fire under-way in the loft of the house, which is reached by means of a ladder and small hatch-way. It burned so briskly and there being no means at hand for subduing the flames, the efforts of Mr. Folger and his friend were turned to saving what articles could be readily handled, and a stove, a few settees and the desk were removed, when the fire drove them out, and soon the building was in ashes. It has been said that there was a manifest indifference on the part of the bystanders to respond to repeated calls from Mr. Folger for assistance, but from conversation with parties, it would appear this was more the result of bewilderment and fear of the falling in of the burning roof. For those articles saved the town is indebted to Messrs. Folger and Fisher.

The accepted theory is that the fire was of incendiary origin, and of course comment as to the cause which led to the deed is rife. It is certainly to be hoped that some clue will be obtained as to who the fire-bug was, and as an incentive to public action, the Selectmen have offered a reward of \$100 for information that will lead to the detection and conviction of the person. The building was valued at \$1000, and there was no insurance upon it. The out-buildings were saved, including the coal shed and its contents. No suspicion has attached to any person as the culprit, and speculation is rife in that particular.

The School Board will probably take no action in the matter of a school there until after the annual meeting, when the subject will probably be given an airing.

Jan. 20, 1881

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

TO be sold at public Auction on the tenth day of May next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, in front of Joseph B. Swain's office, (if not previously sold) the following described Real Estate, viz:

The Farm which Alexander Coffin bought at Eastree Spring, together with all the stock and farming utensils. Also, a dwelling house, cooper's shop, and barn, with the land under and adjoining the same, situated on Ash street. Also, two mowing lots, at the west of the town, containing about one acre each.

For further particulars inquire of Alexander Coffin, Jr.
Nantucket, March 10th, 18 1-3v

1851

Mr. Henry Swain, of Polpis, left his home this morning at three o'clock, during a fit of temporary insanity, and no clue to his whereabouts had been obtained up to the time our paper went to press. It is feared that he has committed suicide. Mr. S. has been subject to these attacks for some years.

Nov. 26, 1858

For the Inquirer and Mirror.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The account of the burning of the schoolhouse in Polpis in your last issue, would lead one not acquainted with the people of this village to think we were a lot of ignorant loafers. We do not consider ourselves as such; and in justice to ourselves, wish to present to your readers an account of the facts as they were.

On the evening of the 18th the people of the village were assembled at their usual place of meeting (not a rude hut), when one of their number by chance went to the door and discovered the schoolhouse to be on fire; he immediately gave the alarm, and the others rushed to the scene and arrived there at the same time that Mr. Joseph M. Folger, Jr., and Sidney V. Fisher did, who had also discovered the fire while at a distance, and were hastening to it. Mr. Folger forced open the door, when the others went in and secured what articles were within reach. Mr. Folger and Mr. Fisher assisted in saving the stove, pipe, and settee; the other articles were saved by the villagers, without their assistance. The outbuildings, situated only ten feet from the schoolhouse, were saved by great exertion, large quantities of water having to be brought from a great distance. Messrs. Folger and Fisher didn't assist at all in saving the buildings.

The burning of our schoolhouse is a great loss to the village, and we are thankful to Messrs. Folger and Fisher for the assistance they rendered; but we think that honor should be given where it is due.

CITIZENS OF POLPIS.

POLPIS, Nantucket Jan. 24, 1881.

FARM AND HOUSES FOR SALE

The subscribers offer for sale the well known Farm, situated in Polpis, late the property of Capt. Barna Coffin, deceased, with all the Stock, Farming Tools, &c., thereunto belonging, all in good order. Also, the Dwelling House, of the deceased, situated on Pine street, and the Dwelling House and land formerly owned by Prince Coffin, also situated on Pine street. For further particulars call on

SAMUEL W. HARRIS,
or GEORGE G. COFFIN.

June 4

Jan. 4, 1854

ANOTHER SQUANTUM.—On Saturday last, a party of about thirty-five persons assembled at the farm of Capt. Benjamin Eldridge, at Polpis, and had what might be called a genuine old-fashion Squantum. A clam chowder of the right kind was served up at noon by the hostess, to which ample justice was done by the company. The day was passed out-of-doors in playing croquet and other games, fishing, &c., and about five o'clock a couple of bushels of well baked clams were served up, which, added to the already well loaded tables, drew forth the praises of all. Soon after tea the horses were harnessed, and all left for town. The strangers who were among the party, and to whom this thing was new, were unanimous in declaring it the best time they ever had, and were determined to visit Nantucket, and have a Squantum every year.

We would advise those who propose getting up a Squantum, to call upon Capt. Eldridge, who is always ready to furnish them with fresh clams, and do everything in his power for the comfort and convenience of his guests. His charges are also very moderate.

Sept. 4, 1869

With our thrifty farmers October is a joyous month—a month of convivial gatherings—especially in the village of Polpis and vicinity. We should name their husking parties, which on each successive year are becoming more and more in vogue, among the institutions of the Island.

There was a large and very pleasant gathering at Mr. Edward Ray's last Tuesday. It was a charming day. The corn was husked on a wide lawn in front of the house, under cover of the blue sky. The air was as warm and genial as summer. The husking was accomplished long before sunset, and after partaking of a repast, which in the order of its arrangement, as well as in the excellency of the food furnished, deserves particular notice. The residue of the day and evening was spent in music, dancing, and other amusements incident to such occasions. The amiable host, with characteristic generosity, and the attentive hostess, exerted themselves to the utmost to make their guests happy, and not without complete success.

On the Friday following, the largest husking party for the season was given by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burgess, at their farm, about two miles from the village of Polpis. There the arrangements were on an extensive scale, commensurate with the amount of labor performed through the year. There were about 175 guests present during the day and evening. The largest number went in the morning, and husked through the day between five and six hundred bushels of ears of corn, which formed a beautiful contrast with the pumpkins, thirty-six loads of which had been carted upon the same ground.—Falling short of work the latter part of the afternoon, they raked and stacked eight or ten loads of hay, exemplifying in a striking manner the old adage, "many hands make light work." Here, too, long before sunset, the harvesters were resting from their labor, or engaged in athletic out-door sports.

After a bounteous meal, of which all partook with a zest only laborers know, the evening was passed in a variety of amusements, each choosing that best adapted to inclination and taste, in the absence of all undue restraint and all false conventionalism.—Some groups were engaged in singing, others in innocent games, while others still joined in the play or in the merry dance.

To accommodate the many guests from town, they separated at an early hour, all satisfied that as recreation is as necessary to human life as sunshine to vegetable, they had wrought some good to their neighbor—not only in an outward-sense, but in the way of cherishing and keeping up the kindly and friendly feelings which prevail in an unusual degree among the farmers in that section of our island.

Several other husking parties were given this week, one at Mr. Jacob Gibbs's on Monday, and one at Mr. Joseph Folger's on Wednesday, which we have reason to suppose were happy and joyous gatherings.

X.

NOTICE!

The Polpis Club has exclusive shooting rights on East Quaise. The property has been posted. The Club will protect its rights to the full extent of the law.

POLPIS CLUB, INC.

EXECUTOR'S SALE.

THURSDAY, March 15th, at 10 o'clock, A. M., in front of office of Joseph B. Swain, the Farm recently occupied by the late Capt. Benjamin Folger, deceased, situated in the village of Polpis, containing about 15 acres of the best land on the Island, with the Dwelling House, Barn, and other buildings situated therein.

A lot of land, enclosed with a good fence, containing six acres and six rods in Share No. 1, in Squam. Two and one sixth acres or 47 1-3 Sheep Commons in share No. 16, Squam. A piece of land in each share, No. 35 and No. 8, in Squam, containing 22 1-2 Sheep Commons in each share.—A piece of Salt Meadow on Swain's Neck, 4 pieces of Salt Meadow on Pocomo, a fuller description of which will be given at the time of sale.

Also, 4 good Cows, one Horse, 2 Carts, 2 Harrows, one Plow, a lot of Farming Tools, about 20 loads of Manure, from 6 to 10 tons of Hay, &c. &c.

Per Order of Executors.

N. B.—On account of the late storm the above sale will be postponed until Thursday, the 22d instant, at the time and place above stated.

1858

POLPIS FARM.

TUESDAY, March 20th, at 10 o'clock, in front of office, a Farm, situated at Polpis, containing about 15 acres, a part of which is well adapted for the growing of Cranberries.—Has a good Dwelling House, Barn, Peat Houses, &c. Property of Mr. Franklin Worth.

TUESDAY, March 20th, at 10 o'clock, in front of office, a lot of Land containing about 17 rods with a good Barn on the same, situated in the rear of the Dwelling of Mr. Samuel B. Folger, on North Water street, and known as formerly the property of Aaron Mitchell, Esq.

EXECUTOR'S SALE.

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Also, 4 good Cows, one Horse, 2 Carts, 2 Harrows, one Plow, a lot of Farming Tools, about 20 loads of Manure, from 6 to 10 tons of Hay, &c. &c.

Per Order of Executors.

1855

The Old Polpis Road

When the purple shades are falling,
And the western sea is gold
Then I love to drive from 'Sconset
Down the winding Polpis road.

Sweet their fragrance of green
thickets
From salt marsh I smell the sea;
Restless birds have ceased their
calling
Hush of evening falls on me.

There's a golden headland rising
Gently from the deep blue sea
Fair white sails are drifting home-
ward

In the sunset radiancy.

I can see a rut road turning
In behind a low green hill,
Close against the golden skyline
Is the dear familiar mill.

There are shadows in the hollows,
Saffron is the western sky,
Look, a sudden blaze of glory,
Then all things in darkness lie.

Grace Elkins Huttaff

Sept. 27, 1952

OBITUARY.

Miss Grace Chadwick, teacher of Tuckernuck school, died at her home in Polpis Wednesday of last week, after an illness of several months. Miss Chadwick was a young lady of amiable disposition, great promise and ability, and was universally esteemed. Her early education was obtained in the village school at Polpis. Later she attended the Coffin school, graduating from there in 1894. The following year she was appointed teacher of the school at Tuckernuck which position she filled most acceptably until last September when failing health compelled her to seek temporary leave of absence. Throughout her long sickness she has clung to the idea of ultimately returning to her work and in her last hours her mind unconsciously reverted to the little schoolhouse at Tuckernuck and in fancy she lived over again the hours spent there.

As a token of respect the flags on all the Public school buildings were displayed at half mast and the school at Polpis was closed during the day of her funeral, which occurred Friday afternoon, when the Public and Coffin schools were closed, and all the teachers and her former classmates attended.

The funeral services were held at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Clark, and Rev. Wolcott Fay, who officiated, spoke cheering words of hope and comfort to her stricken parents and sorrowing family and friends, who have the heartfelt sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

Among the many beautiful floral tributes contributed was an elegant one from Capt. and Mrs. Richard Gibbs of Brockton, which arrived just as the services began.

Jan. 27, 1896

Nashayte Estate Of 94 Acres Sold

An agreement for sale of Nashayte, 94-acre estate and home of Mr. and Mrs. Bassett Jones, to John W. Lucas of Gate Mills, Ohio, has been announced.

The large, rambling estate is one of the most scenic and beautiful on the Island, edging picturesque Polpis Harbor.

Nashayte comprises 79 acres of upland and 15 acres of marshland, surrounding the residence and the other buildings on the estate. Nashayte came to be widely known as an area for the experimental cultivation and growth of Black Japanese pines by Mr. Jones.

Nov. 7, 1952

Oct. 29, 1858

1930

Polpis.

The spring term of the school at Polpis, Mr. C. C. Cook teacher, commenced Monday, February 3d. The number of pupils last term was very materially increased, in comparison with that of recent terms, there being 21 names on the register. This is approaching in some measure the old time record of the school, and indicates an increase of population, which is generally supposed to be a good thing.

The skating on the harbor and pond in this vicinity has been excellent, and highly appreciated and enjoyed by the youth of the neighborhood. Mr. Sylvanus Morey, of Squam, has provided for warm weather by storing about 175 tons of ice, and Mr. John Cook has also secured some 100 tons for Rev. J. B. Tibbits near his summer residence at Squam head.

X.

Feb. 5, 1890

ENTERTAINMENT AT POLPIS.—Our youthful friends at Polpis offer a pleasing Entertainment to-morrow evening at the school house in that village, consisting of recitations, tableaux, &c. Under the careful training of their talented instructor they have acquired great proficiency in their exercises, and as arrangements have been made in anticipation of a goodly number of visitors from town, we trust they will receive that encouragement in their laudable efforts for improvement which a full house is calculated to confer.

1858

Notice!

THE scholars of the Polpis School will give an entertainment, consisting of Reading, Recitations, Tableaux, &c, at the Polpis School House, on Wednesday evening November 24th, at 6 1-2 o'clock. Admission fee 10 cents.

1858

Polpis School.

Miss Ruth Williams, who took charge of the Polpis school the beginning of the present term, tendered her resignation last Friday to take effect immediately. Miss Elith Worth of Polpis, was appointed to the vacancy and took charge on Wednesday. As Miss Worth was absent from the island at the time of her appointment the school was closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Oct. 12, 1893

POLPIS SCHOOL.—Owing to the illness of Miss Mabel Parker who has been substituting for Miss Ayers, the Polpis school has been closed this week. The committee advertise for a teacher in another column.

Feb. 15, 1893

Polpis School.

Miss Ruth Williams, who took charge of the Polpis school the beginning of the present term, tendered her resignation last Friday to take effect immediately. Miss Elith Worth of Polpis, was appointed to the vacancy and took charge on Wednesday. As Miss Worth was absent from the island at the time of her appointment the school was closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Oct. 12, 1893

THE SCHOOLHOUSE, Polpis Road, Nantucket, is not and never has been and never will be for sale. It is the property of His Excellency Mr. Thaddeus Zazulinski and of Mrs. Thaddeus Zazulinska. Anyone interested in renting it for the summer may address himself or herself to Mr. Albert Pitkin, Mr. Robert Congdon, or to Elias J. Lyon. feb.16-tf

March 22, 1952



WITNESSES SUMMONED TO NEW BEDFORD IN 1919 IN THE SULLIVAN CASE.

From left to right—Rear row: John C. Ring, Selectman Ryder, Walter N. Chase, Philip L. Holmes, Joseph A. Johnson, Jr., George H. Reynolds (of the Standard). Front row: William T. Swain, Warren B. Chase, Fred B. Maglathlin, G. Howard Winslow (town treasurer), Hon. James M. Swift (town's counsel), Harry B. Turner and Joseph A. Johnson, Sr.

Dec. 4, 1920

Auditor Finds For Town In Sullivan Case.

The town of Nantucket has won a decision in the famous "Sullivan case"—a suit brought against it by one Maurice E. Sullivan, who in 1913 contracted to build roads on the island of Nantucket. This case has lapsed along for six or seven years, with little chance of a settlement until an agreement was made that the case be heard by an auditor. Charles Mitchell of New Bedford was appointed by the Court to serve in that capacity and in July, 1919, he heard testimony at New Bedford, eleven Nantucketers being summoned as witnesses. One legal procedure after another has drawn the case out for another year, but on Wednesday last Mr. Mitchell filed his report at Taunton, and he decided in favor of the town of Nantucket.

In his last sentence of the report, Auditor Mitchell says "I find that the payments and credits to the plaintiff exceed the amount to which he is entitled under his contract, and I therefore find for the defendant." In other words, Nantucket paid Sullivan too much money for the service which he performed—a condition which the selectmen have always contended that actually existed. That the case has finally been decided will naturally be pleasing to the people of Nantucket, none of whom will regret the severance of relations with one Maurice E. Sullivan, a road builder of more or less renown.

Hon. James M. Swift was council for the town of Nantucket in this interesting "Sullivan case."

A copy of the report filed by Auditor Mitchell appears herewith. It will doubtless be read with great interest.

Dec. 4, 1920



A PASTORAL SCENE AT "HOLLYWOOD."



"NANTUCKET NEIGHBORS" WENDING THEIR WAY THROUGH SWAMP AFTER A VISIT TO "HIDDEN FOREST."

Formation of the Polpis Historical Society.

On Tuesday, August 24, on the invitation of Mrs. Carl Marshall, a group of Polpis neighbors met at her home. The meeting was for the purpose of forming an organization to inquire into and record the history and anecdotes of the old village of Polpis, which is the oldest settlement in its original location on Nantucket.

Those present at the meeting, arranged alphabetically, were: Mrs. John S. Beale, Mrs. Addison G. Brenizer, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Ellinger, Mr. and Mrs. Fidelis Harrer, Mrs. Lola Hinchman, Mr. and Mrs. Bassett Jones, Mrs. George Lytton, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Leser, Mrs. Carl Marshall, Mrs. Everett Dean Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Leeds Mitchell, Dr. Leigh Schwartz, Mrs. Frederick Webster, Mrs. William Whitcomb, and Mrs. Theodore Zazulinska. An interesting discussion by the members contributing information they knew or had collected was brought forth. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Bassett Jones; co-Chairman, Mrs. Carl Marshall; Secretary, Mrs. Fidelis Harrer; Treasurer, Mrs. Edgar Ellinger.

It was voted to hold the next meeting early in July, 1944. If anyone has any interesting data or word-of-mouth stories concerning the early ownership of Polpis property or farms, will they please get in touch with Mrs. Carl Marshall either at Polpis or Providence, R. I. It will be greatly appreciated by the Historical Society of Polpis.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1943.

Polpis Celebrated.

It is seldom that the village folk of Polpis are inclined to celebrate, but after the announcement was received of the automobile victory at the polls Wednesday evening, they just could not help it—and it was some celebration, too, although entirely informal and impromptu.

Guns banged, horns blew, dish-pans clanged, flags waved, young and old cheered, and then they all got together and had a parade. Led by the school teacher and the children, with Richard Burgess' calico horse all bedecked, and with an imitation automobile in line, the Polpis folk paraded all the way from Coffin's farm out through the village to Heighton's farm-house, and then back to Maglathlin's on the other branch road. The villagers carried flags or hoes or rakes—anything they grabbed first—and some of the ladies did very well in furnishing music for martial tread, equipped with potato mashers and dish-pans.

It sure was some parade. The letting down the bars to automobiles meant much to the residents of Polpis—in fact, to all of the out-of-town residents.

"Almanack Pond" Did Not Dry Up, By Any Means.

Last Monday we made a trip out to "Almanack" pond to see if it, too, had gone dry as have the other small ponds on the island as a result of the long dry summer. We found water in Almanack pond—it had not gone dry. In fact, shore birds and upland birds were there when we approached. The marsh surrounding the pond was green and swamp flowers were in blossom. The pond was far from dry.

Many people, seeing the picture on the October sheet of the Nantucket calendar, naturally wonder where "Almanack Pond" got its name. We do not know. The late Ferdinand Ewer, in his historical map made in 1869, locates and names the pond, showing that it was known as "Almanack Pond" at that period.

The late Frederick C. Sanford, who owned a large tract of land in the vicinity and maintained a summer house (mainly for picnics) on the hill overlooking the pond, in 1887 gave the following explanation with the legend which has existed for generations:

"Almanack Pond is a shallow pond of limited circumference which tradition says the Indians watched closely every year.

"By the amount of water in it at seed time, the Indians were said to regulate their planting—that is, if the pond was full it indicated a dry season; if it contained but little water they felt assured of plenty of rain during the summer months and planted accordingly.

"If Almanack Pond is full in the spring, it foretells a dry summer; if at the end of a dry summer, it still contains water and did not dry up as other small ponds have done, it foretells a winter with plenty of moisture in prospect."

"This is the legend as I have always heard it, and which I have always watched with keen interest," said Mr. Sanford.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1944.

The Road to Almanack Pond.

Years ago the remark was often heard that "autos would not be able to travel over the moors the way horses do." Time has proved just the opposite. One of the island liverymen told the Selectmen, Wednesday evening, that he attempted to drive his horse and carriage through the Sauls Hills road out by Almanack pond, but found it impossible to get through the bushes and scrub oaks which had grown over the road from both sides. But an auto wallowed its way through that very road not so very long ago and the occupants had a very interesting and rather thrilling ride. To be sure, the bushes had grown over the road, just as the ilveryman said, but the auto did not care if its face was scratched, whereas a poor horse would have been subjected to harsh treatment in forcing his way through—if he could have got through at all. That Almanack Pond road should be cleared out, anyway, for it is a very pretty and interesting section of the island.

Found a Cannon Ball.

While ploughing in a field on his farm at Polpis, last Wednesday, Frank P. Chadwick and one of his sons came across a rusty cannon ball which had apparently been buried in the soil for decades. From a historical view-point this is quite a "find," as it may be a relic from the fight which occurred off Nantucket on October 11, 1814, between the American privateer Neufchatel and the British frigate Endymion. Or it may have been fired on Nantucket as far back as the Revolutionary days. Between 1775 and 1815 the residents of Nantucket were living a rather strenuous existence and British vessels frequently visited these shores and made life miserable for the inhabitants. The place where this cannon ball was found was quite near the site of the old fulling mill located at Polpis, which might have been an excellent target. The ball of iron weighs 4 1/4 pounds and it is certainly an interesting relic which ought to be preserved in the rooms of the Historical Association.

April 1922

ANOTHER HUSKING.

NANTUCKET, Oct. 19, 1878.

Messrs. Editors:—I had the good fortune of being invited, last Wednesday, to the husking of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Gibbs, at their hospitable home at Polpis—and, by the by, they have one of the nicest places I know of, for it not only furnishes food for a large amount of cattle, sheep and poultry, but is also in close proximity to the harbor, where one in a short time can dig a bucket of clams, get a mess of eels, or by shoving off a short distance from the shore in a boat, can catch scup or bluefish, so that the occupant of this farm has within easy reach a good dinner for every day in the year, and has no occasion to go to town except for a few groceries. But to return to my story; we started from home early after dinner, and on arriving found some eighty persons of both sexes, from eight to eighty years of age, standing behind a long heap of corn, busily at work. The red ears furnished a source of merriment to young and old. As "many hands make light work," the corn was soon husked, when some repaired to the house and others to the lawn in front, where the young men engaged in a game of base ball, while the older ones amused themselves with pleasant chit-chat until the supper hour arrived, when all were summoned to the house, where a scene met the eye which would cause an epicure to laugh with delight. It is due to truth and justice to say that Mrs. Gibbs is a first-class cateress and first-class housekeeper. All the rooms were specimens of neatness, and her tables groaned with loads of good things. On every hand could be heard expressions like these: "What delicious chowder!" "What nice sweet butter!" "What nice bread!" "What rich cake!" And above all could be heard the voice of Farmer S., calling "More beans, please," while by his side sat his devoted wife, cautioning him not to over eat.

After all had eaten their fill, and enough food left for as many more, the tables were removed to make room for the amusements of the evening, which consisted of dancing to the music of friend Stevens' violin, interspersed at intervals with singing by the company, rope playing, etc. After passing a delightful evening, all returned to their homes by the light of the harvest moon, wishing long life and happiness to their host and hostess. H.

POLPIS SCHOOLHOUSE AT AUCTION

By authority of the Annual Town Meeting, the Selectmen of the Town of Nantucket will offer for sale at Public Auction on the premises, on Monday, August 6th, 1928, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the land and buildings known as the Polpis school-house.

Per order Selectmen,
jy28-2t

ANNE RING, Secretary.

Aug. 7, 1928

AT POLPIS.

The Polpis school-house was very prettily decorated with evergreen and flowers on Thursday afternoon, when the parents and friends of the pupils assembled to listen to an entertainment prepared for the celebration of Columbus Day. The programme consisted of songs and recitations suited to the occasion. The singing was a very pleasing feature, and the recitations were rendered in a manner that showed that the children entered into the spirit of the day. The teacher, Miss Annie C. Ayers, is entitled to praise for devising this entertainment for the benefit of the residents of Polpis. An hour was very pleasantly spent, and will long be remembered by all who participated in it.

Oct. 22, 1892

1918

Nov. 2, 1925



Ten years ago yesterday (February 16, 1930) an unusual snow-storm swept across Nantucket, leaving a fall of 9.3 inches, which drifted badly in places and completely blocked out-of-town roads. One of the largest drifts was at the foot of the hill adjoining the farm property of Dr. George A. Folger, on the Polpis road, just at the curve. The view above shows just how high this drift was and explains why the inhabitants of Polpis had to walk to town on election day, 1930, in order to cast their respective ballots. The party was met near the pines at the Mooney Farm by an auto which carried them the remainder of the distance. One of the group was a woman—Mrs. Charles H. Blount.

It took three days of laborious work to open up the roads so that the villages of 'Sconset, Polpis and Wauwinet were once more available to the townspeople, and the all important fire protection assured.

Car Evelyn Murray

Wedding in Polpis.

A very pretty wedding took place last Saturday, June 30, at Spotswood, in Polpis, when Miss Louise Lillian Coffin was united in marriage to Mr. Zenas Coleman Folger. The wedding was a very quiet affair, only the immediate families of the contracting parties being present. The house was prettily decorated with cultivated and wild flowers, and the young couple stood under an arch of blossoms. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Charles W. Delano, of Worcester, who is a cousin of the bride. The ritual of the Methodist Episcopal church was used, with a single ring. Mr. Folger is a son of Franklin H. Folger, of Siasconset, and Mrs. Folger is the daughter of Charles B. Coffin of Polpis. Both of the young people are well known and very popular on the island, and a host of friends will wish them a bright and prosperous future.

July 3, 1906

Camp Nickanoose Activities.

One of the most attractive spots on the island for children and the younger set is Camp Nickanoose, Polpis, located on the Polpis harbor, where sailing and swimming instructions are pastimes, together with the building of boats which later on they will sail themselves.

Tennis and dancing are separate units which are being enjoyed by the younger set of the island. This Sunday, July 12th, at four o'clock, exhibition matches of well-known tennis players of the summer colony will be played.

The Dance Studio has had several very fine demonstrations of ball room and tap dancing—at the Nickanoose Studio, June 30th; at Sea Cliff, July 4th; and at the 'Sconset Casino the evening of July 8th—when Frank Kitchens, dancing instructor, and Miss Barbara Melendy, one of the staff, danced an exquisite tango, followed by an exhibition tap by Mr. Kitchens.

July 11, 1936

A Polpis Antique and Gift Shop.

During the past six or seven years there has existed in the tiny hamlet of Polpis a business that has quietly become widely known. At the farmhouse and in the barn of the old John Swain residence, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Webster have established a headquarters for antiques and interesting old pieces which has gained an enviable record among shops of its kind here.

There is a significant contrast as one enters the old barn and views the extensive collection. Where once the farm horses stamped and the hay-mow spread its high length, the walls and rafters surround a different scene. Colonial secretaries, old cabinets, and graceful tables hold a collection of aristocratic silver, china and glassware. The Duke of Manchester's serving tray occupies the former site of the old grain bin, while a portrait of Charles I, a sixteenth century altar cloth, tapestries, and mirrors in silver frames hang on the old brown-boarded walls.

Mr. and Mrs. Webster have made trips to England during the past few years to personally choose their attractive display. The result is an exhibit that would make the old whaling captains of Polpis gaze with astonishment.

The old farmhouse of "Squantum Farm" holds several rooms full of gifts, all in keeping with the growing reputation of this island business.

Nov. 15, 1935

Polpis Harbor Dredging Project.

The water-ways division of the State Department of Public Works has advertised for bids for dredging an entrance channel into Polpis harbor, Nantucket. State Engineers W. J. LaBohn and Samuel Warren, who supervised recent harbor dredging operations, are surveying Polpis harbor to determine the possibilities of dredging that area.

It is understood that various local groups have been urging the deepening of Polpis harbor as a benefit to the shell-fish industry, the idea being to create a better flow by deepening the harbor entrance.

It is thought that a "sandsucker" type dredge will be used if the project goes through State and local offices.

Sept. 30, 1939

Norwood Barn, Polpis Road

Apply to Franklin E. Smith, Treasurer, 50 Congress Street, Boston, Mass., for price on the lumber contained in the seventy foot Norwood barn which was blown down a few days ago. 1t

Feb. 20, 1932



A PORTION OF THE LOCUST GROVE AT EATFIRE SPRING WHICH THE STATE INTENDS TO SACRIFICE IN BUILDING THE WAUWINET ROAD. THIS PICTURE IS A FAVORITE ONE FOR ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS.

May 30, 1925

Nantucket Neighbors Visit Hollywood Farm.

Sixty automobiles and more than a hundred and sixty persons accepted the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Maglathlin at Hollywood Farm, last Friday afternoon, on the occasion of the last Friendly Afternoon of the Nantucket Neighbors.

They listened to an address on the vegetation of Nantucket by Bassett Jones, and then enjoyed a two mile walk through the "jungle", as Mr. Maglathlin calls his swampy woodland.

The "Hidden Forest" and the Hollywood Farm "Jungle" are two of the most interesting regions on Nantucket for nature lovers. In these thickets there are beech and maple trees with trunks of great diameter, whose height is surprisingly less than what would be expected. Botanists see in this fact the curious adaptation of the tree-habits to the severe winds that prevail on the island. The crooked branches where trees have struggled against the tempests, the mosses and ferns, the stumps where the roots have been drowned, all these features on exhibition in the "Jungle" were of fascinating significance.

Mr. Jones explained that the broad boards and great beams to be found in many of the houses might easily have come from the ship yards that used to build vessels on Nantucket. But he insisted that there never grew any trees large enough to explain such lumber. There used to be one chestnut tree on the Island. A beech in the "Hidden Forest" has a circuit of foliage of 125 feet but is only 25 feet high. There are oaks at Coskata and Quaise thirty inches across but only twenty-five feet high.

Mr. Maglathlin had made a trail with sand carted in a wheelbarrow, had mowed the pathway, and had done everything to make his guests enjoy their tour. Their universal expressions of appreciation ought to make him feel very happy.

1932

Squantums.

THE subscriber is now in readiness to accommodate squantums at his farm at Polpis; and will supply clams and all necessities on these occasions.

Jyl

BENJAMIN C. ELDRIDGE.

1871

The Petition From Polpis.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

We note in your paper of September 25th that a number of the Polpis tax-payers sent a petition to the Board of Selectmen about mosquito breeding in Polpis.

This work in Polpis has not been done for lack of funds, as our appropriations from the Town are only for maintenance of work already done.

The situation will be taken care of from the much delayed W. P. A. funds which were allocated to the Mosquito Control Commission a year ago last August. Money allocated by W. P. A. is a blanket project to be used on Nantucket to abolish any mosquito breeding places and those mentioned by the Polpis tax-payers are on our survey to be done this late fall or early winter.

We could have taken care of this fresh water breeding temporarily if we had been allowed to use oil. This is not allowed under our appropriation outside of town areas. The use of oil is the most effective way to prevent breeding until permanent work can be done.

We are always prepared to answer questions of tax-payers or town officials if we are asked to do so.

Respectfully,

Nantucket Mosquito Control Project,
Louis J. Praeger, Sec'y-Treas.

Oct. 2, 1937



From Mr. Fred Maglathlin
The Hidden Forest

Probate Court

The will of the late Fred B. Maglathlin, of Polpis Road, was filed for probate in the Probate Court this week. After dividing the bulk of his estate between his widow, Mrs. Evelyn D. Maglathlin, and his son, Kenneth H. Maglathlin, of Tangerine, Fla., Mr. Maglathlin remembered a number of long time friends and organizations he belonged to with bequests ranging from \$50 to \$200.

His remembrances to friends included Robert E. Doane, of Boston, \$200; Eleanor Coffin, of Siasconset, \$100; Theresa A. Kelleher, of Malden, \$100; Mary D. Hawes, of Brockton, \$100; Mary Belle Ford, of Milford, \$100; and Etta Evans, of Brockton, \$100.

He also made bequests to the First Baptist Church of Nantucket, \$200; Old North Church, of Nantucket, \$100; Pacific Club, \$200; Odd Fellows Lodge of Kingston, Mass., \$100; Odd Fellows Lodge of Nantucket, \$100; Rebekahs, \$200; Blue Lodge of Masons, \$200, and Eastern Star, \$200.

Mr. Maglathlin left a cash bequest of \$5,000 each to his wife and his son and \$1,000 each to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Esther Maglathlin, and a nephew, Adam Stein. He directed that all of the furniture and household furnishings in the family home at Polpis be given to his wife, and that she is to be given all his real estate in Nantucket, including Hollywood Farm.

He ordered that the rest, remainder and residue of his estate be divided in half, with one half to be given outright to his wife, and the other half to be held in trust by his wife and Attorney Doane for the benefit of his son, Kenneth. He said that his son was to receive either \$2,000 annually or the income from the trust, whichever is the larger. He also directed that if any of the principal is required to pay bills for the care of his son in the event of illness, the necessary money to provide for him is to be taken from the trust fund.

In a separate bequest he left all the interest he owns in land in Plymouth County to his sister, Mrs. Lucy Maglathlin Stein. Later he drew a codicil to his will in which he changed the wording of this bequest to read that he confined this bequest to a one-fourth interest he held in a parcel of land situated in Plymouth County, running from Cuttyhunk Gunning Stand to a pond.

Sept. 30, 1960

Sherman J. Sexton.

Sherman J. Sexton, president and board chairman of John Sexton Company and owner of Seaview Farms in Nantucket, died on Tuesday, March 13, at his home in Chicago, Ill. Mr. Sexton, who was 63, was born in Chicago and educated at De Paul University. He entered the firm, which had been started by his father, in 1911 and, in 1926, became the president. As wholesale and manufacturing grocers, the company has achieved international renown.

Mr. Sexton first came to Nantucket in the early 1940's, later purchasing the Eatfire Spring property on the Wauwinet Road, which has become known, under its present name Seaview Farms, the country over, both as an excellent farm and for its herd of prize Brown Swiss cows.

He was a director of the National Wholesale Institutional Grocers' Association, a member of the board of trustees of De Paul University and Tuskegee Institute, a director of the Catholic Charities of Chicago, of Madonna Centre, and of the Salvation Army of Chicago. In Nantucket he was a member of Sankaty Head Golf Club.

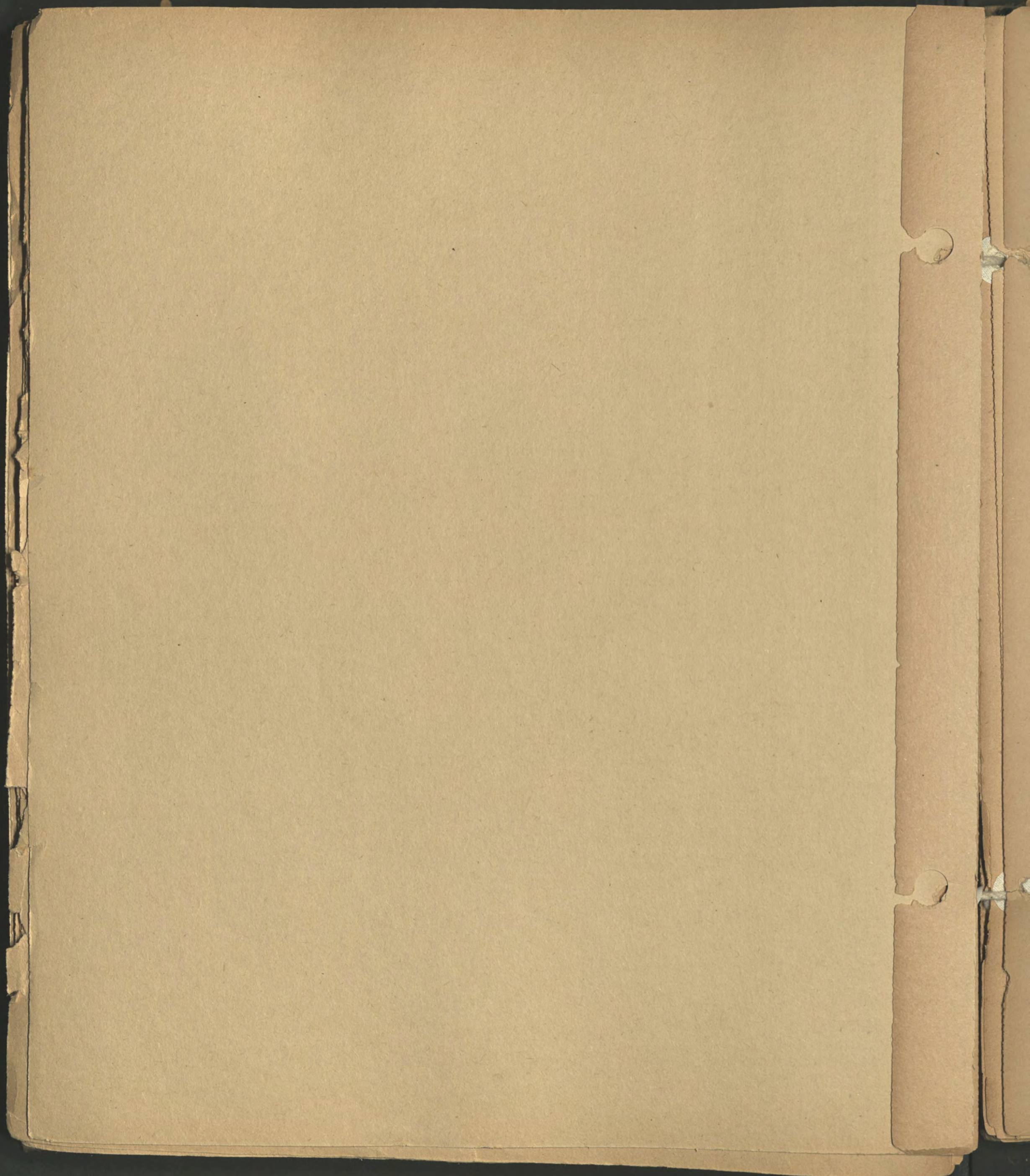
He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mildred Sexton; a son, William C., of Chicago; two daughters, Mrs. Harold Baumann, of Chicago, and Mrs. Philip Kiernan, of Utica, N. Y.; two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Marten, of Evanston, Ill., and Mrs. Edmund A. Egan, of Chicago, and two brothers, Franklin and Thomas G. Sexton, of Chicago.

Funeral services were held on Friday in Chicago.

Mar 11 1956

"EAT-FIRE" SPRING.—The terribly dry weather of the last four or five months, which has dried up wells, and even ponds which were never known to be dry before, has had no perceptible effect upon the flow of water from this singular spring. We learn from Mr. Albert Easton, the owner of the farm on which the spring breaks from the ground, that the amount of water discharged now is the same as that at any other season; twelve gallons per minute, or five hundred and forty-eight barrels every twenty-four hours.

Nov. 21, 1874



Polpis Holly Grower Quit Engineering for Hobby.

Back in the middle '40's, a New Jersey doctor appraised a tall, lanky, successful public utilities engineer with a knowing eye. "My lad," he said, "why don't you get out of a job that keeps you sitting down and go and do some manual labor?" Most engineers would have stayed put and wouldn't have known what to do if they had moved. Donald Craig thought of holly as a means of getting away from it all.

Today, he is Nantucket's acknowledged expert on the tough little evergreen that was native here before the Indians. He has been off-island only once in three years. Out at Polpis, his unusual holly farm has thousands of plants, large and small, and he is continually experimenting with many of the 100 varieties of *Ilex Opaca* now being grown in American nurseries.

Tanned, humorous and every bit alive, Donald Craig's coke engineering days are far behind. He laughingly says that he knows less about holly the more he studies it. That may be because he is so ambitious in his study, ranging the field from the American varieties to specimens from England, China and Japan. And while he does this, Mrs. Craig tends to her remarkable herb garden in another manifestation of happy living on Nantucket.

There's plenty of manual labor and quite a little doctoring in Donald Craig's busy life today.

When you hear him talk about holly as he strides round the 27-acre estate, you realize that he puts the plants quite close to the category of human beings.

"Poor little things," he will exclaim. "They have such a hard time struggling. But give them good stuff to eat and they'll be flourishing."

Again, he will say, "Here's an invalid. It was just a stump a little while ago. Now it is doing fine." Another plant, that came from England via Oregon, got bleached in transit. The fine, healthy flush of dark green is re-appearing in its cheeks. Lots of others have to be watched lest they get wind-burned or sun-burned.

The native Nantucket holly, however, is not so delicate as mainland specimens. In fact, Mr. Craig declares, "It is our toughest native tree." It would flourish even more on the island were it not for human beings who break off the branches and otherwise deface the wild holly growths that are the most unusual and beautiful evergreens on Nantucket.

Damage by "two-legged pests" is all the more serious because the native holly is held from propagating through the destruction of seeds, black or red, by mice. There is a plague of these seed-eaters in the fields. Mr. Craig has to cover his more delicate sprouts with wire screening. He also is relying just now on wild cats and hawks to hold down the mouse population. They are doing their best.

But how did an engineer who knew all about coke plants happen to hit upon holly as his specialty? Well, holly appealed to him as a favorite plant from childhood up. The Craigs started raising a few shrubs for a hobby long before "getting away from it all." They didn't expect to get rich

quick in the holly business. For a holly cutting takes a couple of years to grow into a saleable plant and in many cases elsewhere the trees have been known to live 400 years. Holly-raising is something for a patient man, a kind man who does not mind lavishing loving care upon his charges along with a very great deal of that manual labor the doctor ordered.

To the holly-raiser, the tiny white or green blossoms are choicer than those of orchids, their aroma, so attractive to bees, more splendid than the finest attar of roses out of the Thousand and One Nights.

"It's worth it," says Mr. Craig enthusiastically. "There's no finer tree than the holly and no finer plant for a hedge and no finer decoration for a garden or a lawn. See this dark green leathery leaf with the spines in the form of a triangle at the end. Feel this smooth one from a deciduous holly that drops its leaves in the fall. See this green leaf with a yellowish fringe round the edge and this one with a yellow mark in the middle. Over here is one that took seven years to make sprout."

When tourists stop by to get his two or three-year-old beauties as souvenirs, the holly raiser is mightily pleased. He knows good will for his favorite is going to spread. He is, of course, a member of the Holly Society of America, an esoteric body, and is, like all those of his faith, eagerly awaiting publication of a "Bible" of the cult, by the holly master of them all, H. Harold Hume of Florida. Don't think that the Southern savant hasn't been informed about the habits of the Nantucket holly!

How did Mr. and Mrs. Craig happen to come to Nantucket to do their holly-raising? Well, Mr. Craig first arrived here in 1898, and he must have been a babe in arms at that time. His family had a summer home here. As a boy, he was driven with other children along the Polpis road by a cabbie who was police chief in later time, Houghton Gibbs.

Young Master Craig heard the chief tell stories along the way behind the snorting horses, and often saw him point out the John Swain place as the oldest house on the island, 1760 or so. The building was hit by lightning in 1902, burned later.

Donald Craig always remembered the general lines of this steep-roofed old structure. So when, as a holly grower-to-be, he designed his present home nearby, he copied the John Swain homestead as closely as possible.

Before starting his holly farm, Mr. Craig read a piece in *The Inquirer and Mirror* by the late editor and publisher, Harry B. Turner. It was a plea for the preservation of holly. "Why tear the trees apart: why not grow your own?" was the gist of the article. The reader was much impressed. He preaches the same doctrine today.

A Craig holly plant recently reached Japan as a gift from the Holly Society of America to the Forest of Peace near Tokyo. There nations friendly at present to Japan are being represented by various growths. This is poetic justice in regard to Nantucket. For our own island pines originated in Japan. They were brought here by Bassett Jones, Sr., father of Bassett Jones, prominent summer resident, because they could resist salt air and salt water at a time when Nantucket's trees were dwindling fast.

While there are loads of pines today despite forest fires, an ever-constant peril in summer and fall which vacationists must guard against, they, too, are being threatened with extinction. The turpentine beetle, now active here, is something they do not seem to be able to take. Here is another reason for care and conservation in regard to the wild holly!

The little grove of pines at the entrance to the Wauwinet colony is composed of original Japanese trees owing their presence to Mr. Jones. He was an architect who had travelled in Japan and who felt that the soil for pines was like that of Nantucket.

Mr. Craig grows his plants both from seeds and cuttings. At first, he imported holly. He soon learned that the Nantucket varieties, red-berried, black or "ink"-berried and non-berried, were the hardiest. So he obtained permission to prune existing growths for the cuttings and to pick berries which otherwise would be targets for mice. His most precious charges are the three-leaved little cuttings stuck in leaf mould and sand under glass, watered once or twice a day, and destined to grow into sturdy plants in two years or so.

"I haven't lost a single holly brought up from seed because of wind or weather," said Mr. Craig proudly. "But the trouble with raising from seed is that you can't tell what variations you're going to get. With cuttings from a known plant, you are sure. I develop the individuals with seed and then reproduce them with the cuttings."

The engineer-turned-holly-grower, who has a little box shop for his plants in the basement of his charming and individualistic house, adjusted a wind screen on one of his more delicate charges.

"There's one thing about this strange business," he declared. "It gets more challenging all the time."

After a round with Mr. Craig, you begin to understand why the Druids worshipped holly trees in the shadowy times of history. The enthusiasm of holly fans outside the larger circle of Yuletide users becomes more clear. You realize that there are deities among holly lovers, like a 75-year-old Virginia tree, not because it sold for \$1,250 but because 100,000 cuttings were taken from it to be made into individual growths.

So protect the Nantucket holly whenever you can!

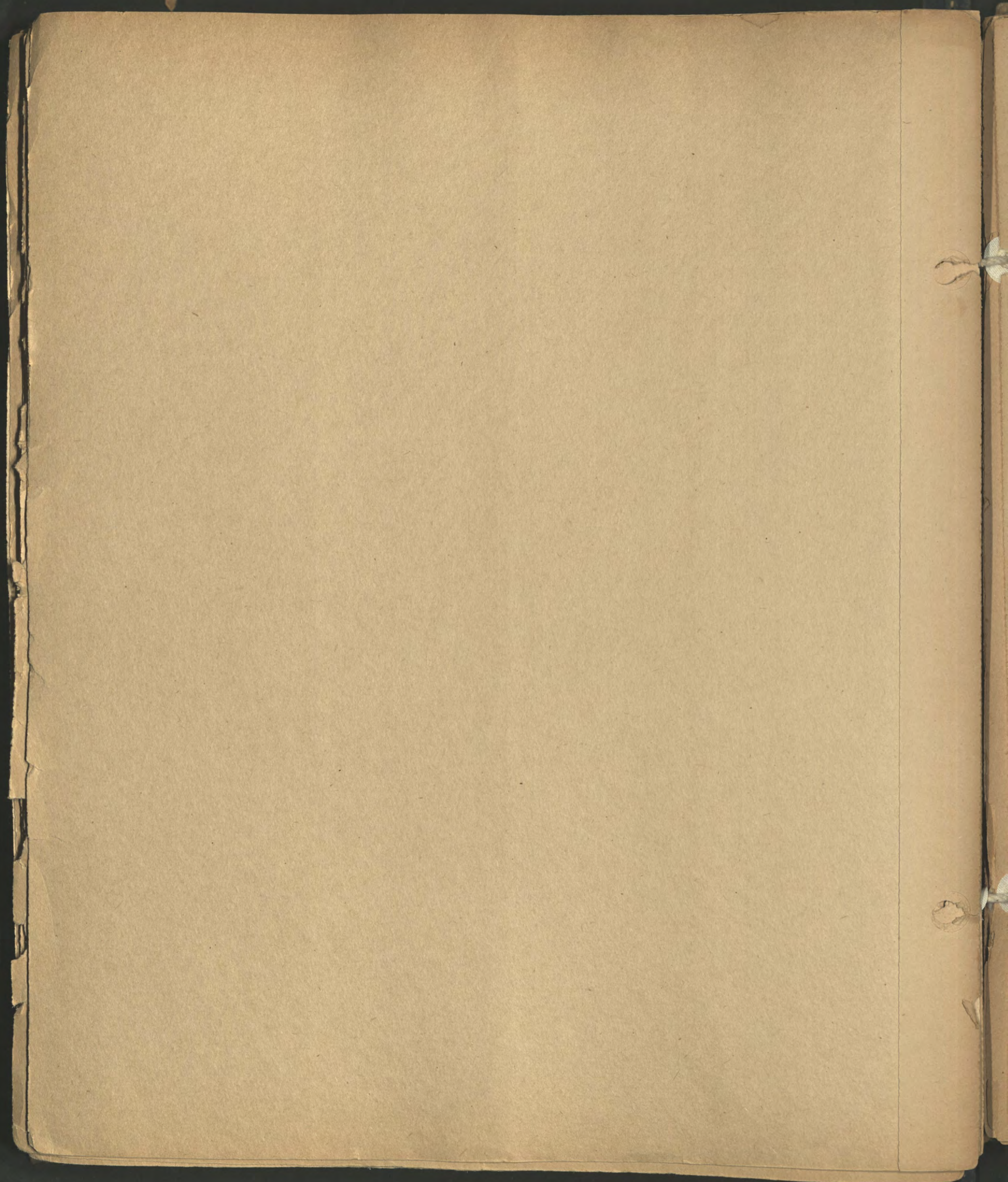
June 20, 1953

NANTUCKET GROWN HOLLY—

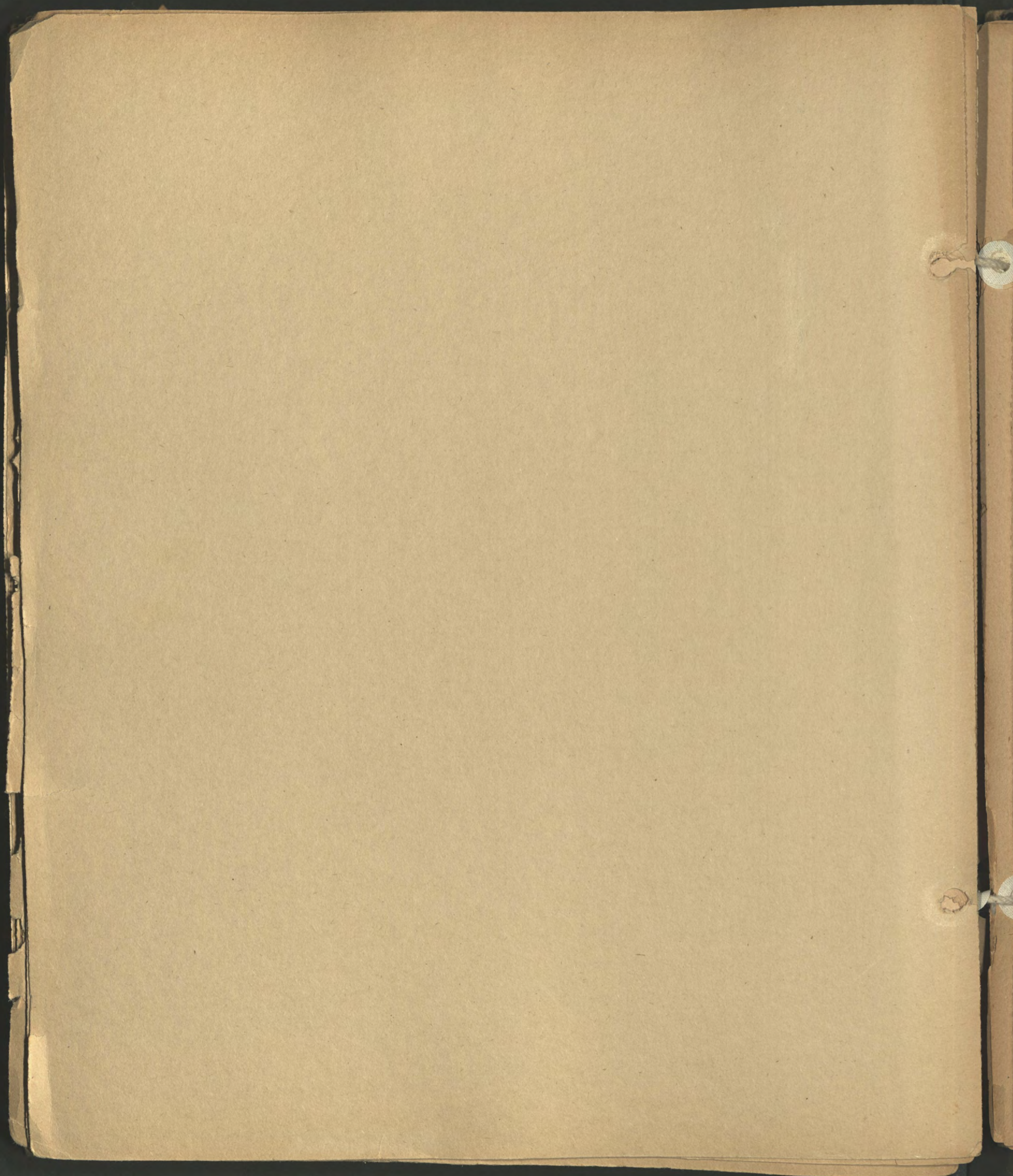
Both native American and English
1 to 4 yrs old — 6" to 18" tall
Prices from 75c to \$5.00 each
A few larger at reasonable prices
These hollies are grown in pots
can be transplanted at any time
or taken anywhere quite easily.
Make original, appreciated gifts
for hosts, weddings, anniversaries
etc. or to take back home as souvenirs
for friends and relatives.
American seedlings fine for long
lived windbreaks and hardy hedges
that can be held to solid shape
WITHOUT incessant clipping.
Nantucket's toughest native tree
Grows rapidly—once established
Amer female berrybearing cuttings
grow to handsome evergreen trees
berries brighten winter gardens.
English seedlings make attractive
interesting, unusual house plants.
D. Craig, Polpis, at Wauwinet folk.

je27-tf

1953







Squam

East Cliff.

That which has been known for so many years as "Chadwick's Folly," has proven to be a great success for the purpose for which the owners are using it, a place for a summer's outing. About twenty-five people, most of whom are from Poughkeepsie, have been spending the month of August at that place, and have made that end of the island alive with gaiety. The owners have declined the applications of people desiring to board with them, but with their invited guests and a number of servants keep the house well filled during the season.

The following form the congenial party that has been spending the month at East Cliff: Mr. and Mrs. John Peterkin, Miss Luceile Peterkin, Miss Bessie Chichester, the Rev. and Mrs. Robert E. Farrier, Ednah and Master Robert Farrier, Miss Elizabeth Rowe, Miss Sarah Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. George Meeks, Mrs. Charles Schon and daughter Olivia, all of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Dr. Robinson, of Brockton, Mrs. E. Farrier, of Brooklyn, Mrs. E. Crosby, Nantucket, and the Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Sherwood, of Kingston, N. Y. Mr. P. L. Van Wagenen, Mr. Charles Schon, Mr. Jerome DeYoe and J. Kelley have made a brief visit upon their friends at East Cliff, after a fishing trip along the coast.

Aug. 25, 1896

Notes From Squam Head.

Few people of the island realize the attractive location of Squam Head, of which a visit will at once convince one. Here we find Prof. Sanford S. Cutler and family, of the Bronx, occupying the "Old Homestead"; the Rev. Dr. Farrier and family in "The Barnacle"; Mrs. J. W. Lindholm and family in "Low Bridge"; and the Misses Merry of Newark, N. J., in "High Tide."

The young people of this colony issue a weekly paper called the "Sea Gull" which is prettily illustrated and abounds in personals and humorous items for the Squam colony.

Gustave Fallstrom is expected at the "Low Bridge" for the balance of the season.

Mrs. Harriett Dunbar has rented the large house known as "The Folly," and will open it next season as a first-class boarding house. Mrs. Dunbar has had several years of experience in the city in catering to the needs of the people, and believes that the beautiful location and the spacious rooms of "The Squam House" make it an ideal house for large summer patronage.

Aug. 24, 1912

Squam Head Notes.

There will be the usual number in the colony at Squam Head, or "East Cliff" during the coming season. Everything that is rentable has been engaged for the season. Messrs Peterkin and Farrier could have rented several more cottages there if they had them. They were obliged to refuse six families who wanted cottages.

Professor Robert Neal, A. M. and family of Amherst College, will occupy "Old Homestead." The Rev. Robert E. Farrier and family will occupy "High Tide." E. Forsythe and family, of Skaneateles, N. Y., will spend the season in "Low Bridge." The Rev. C. M. Douglas and family, of Short Hills, N. J., will be in the large house.

Being unable to supply the demand for cottages, the owners of the property have at last consented to sell some building plots, and we understand are making negotiations for the plotting of the property. Lots will be sold only under certain restrictions. One man has been seeking to make negotiations to purchase the large barn, and convert it into three large cottages. This would make an addition to the colony, and prove a good investment, as the cottages can easily be rented.

One thing that the cottagers desire is a place to secure their meals. At present there is talk of the large house being opened another season as a first-class boarding house, or hotel. And if one of our former visitors carries out his plan, the cottagers at Squam Head will consider the life there ideal.

June 8, 1907

Squam House

(near Wauwinet.)

Large, Airy Rooms.

Quiet. Home-like. Excellent table. Ocean front. Fine bathing.

Shore Dinners or Dinner Parties served on due notice.

I. W. Dorman, Chef.
Address Squam House,
Nantucket, Mass.
Cottage to rent for 1917. my20 s

1916

THE OLD GLASS SHOP

at

SQUAM HEAD

EARLY AMERICAN PRESSED
AND BLOWN GLASS.

Take road to Wauwinet and follow
the sign to Squam.

It*

1941

Squam Notes.

Already the Squamites have entered into the pleasure of fishing at Sesachacha.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Farrier and family, are at "The Barnacle" this summer.

"Low Bridge" is occupied by Gustave Falstrom, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lindholm and daughter Edda.

Rev. Daniel H. Clare and family, of East Orange, N. J., are occupying "Old Homestead" for the season.

Miss Ednah Crosby Farrier, who recently graduated from Vassar College, is spending the summer at New City, N. Y.

We all feel sorry for the loss of the skiff, which the high tide Wednesday, took from its usual position on the beach and carried south.

Tennis is quite popular at Squam. With a new court laid out, and the weather being pleasant this week, some close matches have been played.

"Moonlight croquet" is quite a novelty to Squam. Some of the players think it is quite a feat to knock a ball through a wicket indicated by a white ribbon.

Robert H. Dodd, successor to Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, and Miss Dodd, with maid, of Montclair, N. J., arrived Wednesday and will occupy "Seacrest" for the summer.

July 22, 1916

The Erosion at Squam Head.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

In 1928 my brother, the late William F. Jones, established certain survey stakes along the east shore of the island in order to keep records of erosion by the sea. My brother held that the erosion of Squam Head was of vital importance since this headland is the anchorage of the shore from Sesachacha to Great Point. When Squam Head is sufficiently eroded a readjustment of this shore must occur, as it did in the latter 1890's.

The average erosion of Squam Head during the past eighteen years has been 2 feet, 1 inch per year. During the three-day northeast storm of November, 1945, the erosion was 9 feet, 11 inches just south of the site of "Hen's Wing", and 9 feet, 5 inches just south of the Wauwinet dump.

yours,
Bassett Jones.

June 29, 1946

Mortgagee's Sale.

Much interest attached to the sale of the Chadwick property in Squam, which was sold last Monday by A. M. Myrick, auctioneer, under foreclosure of mortgage by the Nantucket Institution for Savings. Three gentlemen of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., bought this estate of thirty-five acres, with its stately mansion, large stable, and other buildings, for the small sum of \$2500. The purchasers were Robert E. Farrier, John Peterkin and Peter L. Van Wagman. They purpose to improve this estate, and will arrange among other things to render it more accessible from Nantucket by water, by building a wharf in the upper harbor. The house will be completed. It is expected that \$10,000 will be expended in putting the estate in thorough order. The house will be adapted for the accommodation of from 75 to 100 people, and will be used for clubhouse purposes of highly moral character.

Aug. 18, 1894

Squam.

O'er the hill and down the vale,
Rounding Quidnet's bay,
Fringed with many scented flowers
Perfuming the way—
Where the green and brown tinged moors
Meet the sea so calm,
There's a sense of joy and peace
On the road to Squam.

Neath the shade of a cherry tree
My summer cottage rests,
The swallows twitter round about
And in the eaves build nests,
The gentle zephyr from the moors
Gives to the air a balm,
O, there's no other quite so pure
As on the shore at Squam.

The sun sets on Nantucket bay
With variegated sky
The daylight as it fades away
So beauteous to the eye,
"Beside still waters, pastures green"
As sung in David's psalm
Portrays the quiet, the rest, the peace
In this old town of Squam.

The eel grass covered marsh I love
The walk along the dunes,
The running tide from out the cove
To me the best of tunes,
Some cross the sea to other climes
Some seek the southern palm.
My heart's content in my summer home
On Nantucket Isle at Squam.

Frank Obear.

St. Louis, March 17, 1909.

Deer Liberated in Swamps Near Squam.

Not since Clinton S. Folger brought his automobile to the island in November, 1923, has there been a similar aggregation on Steamboat wharf to extend greetings to a new arrival, until on Monday afternoon last, when a motley crowd of boys and sportsmen assembled at the gang-plank to welcome the two female deer which were on board the Islander on the last stage of their journey from the forests of Michigan.

The arrival of the deer had been anticipated several days, for word had been received by wire that they had been shipped, and it was quite an event for the boys when the truck bearing the two crates was rolled off the forward gang-plank onto the dock. There was a grand skirmish as the youngsters followed the deer along and watched the crates being lifted into Irvin Wyer's truck.

Probably many of the lads were disappointed because the deer were not set free on the dock, but Game Warden Jones had the right idea, and he placed them in Wyer's stable for the night, where they were fed and watered and allowed to rest as much as the narrow crates would permit, after their long ride from Michigan.

The deer were secured by Breckinridge Long, to serve as companions for the buck deer which has been roaming about on the island nearly four years, seldom seen by anyone and the only animal of his kind here. Mr. Long some time ago conceived the idea of securing a couple of doe and the islanders took kindly to the proposition, so that the selectmen felt that they were expressing the wish of their constituents when they voted to formally accept the deer, upon their arrival, in behalf of the town of Nantucket.

It was not alone the boys who were interested in the arrival of the deer, apparently, for when Game Warden Jones started out from town about 9.00 o'clock Tuesday morning, with the two crates of deer in the truck, three or four cars trailed on behind bearing some folks who passed their boy-hood years ago, but were still boys, nevertheless.

It was a chilly morning, too, but that did not make any difference and the deer had a real enthusiastic escort as they took their ride out to the east end of the island to "liberty."

The Game Warden decided that the swamps in back of Squam would be a likely place for the deer to find shelter and an abundance of food at this season, so the animals were liberated in the large tract of land at the rear of the Backus farm-house on the road to Wauwinet.

Just what would happen when the animals were released was only guess-work. Some claimed that they would make a wild dash to freedom; others that they would dash about aimlessly—frightened as a result of their long confinement and the tortures of travel.

But not so. When the front was raised from each crate, the deer surveyed the strange scenery for a moment, but did not seem in any particular hurry. The crowd gathered about probably kept the doe guessing and it was not until there were one or two vicious kicks on the back of one of the crates that the first ventured out.

The other followed suit. Both were evidently stiffened from the cramped quarters where they had been kept for a week or more, and it took them a moment or two to get full realization that they were again free. Then they headed for the swamp and lost no time in getting beyond the reach of man. A high fence and some bushes were in the way, but the deer jumped over with ease and with tails erect they trotted up the hillside in the distance and, after a momentary survey of their surroundings they made a dash for the thicket and were lost to sight.

The male deer has not shown itself for several months, but it is fair to presume that it is still on the island. During the last four years it has been seen in various localities, sometimes at Coskata or Wauwinet, again on the north bluff near Long Pond, and more recently in the pines near Miacomet, which indicates that the buck does not make his home in any particular swamp or grove.

How long it will be before he locates his new chums no one knows. Animal instinct may, however, tell him of the arrival of the two doe and he will probably deeply appreciate the companionship after his four years of loneliness.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE.

The Chadwick Property at Squam Sold by Foreclosure for \$2500.

The Chadwick property at Squam was sold Monday at auction under foreclosure of the Nantucket Institution for Savings, mortgagee, by Andrew M. Myrick, for \$2500. The purchasers were Rev. Robert E. Farrier, Messrs. Peter L. Van Wagner, and John Peterkin, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

This estate comprises about 35 acres situated on one of the most commanding sites on the island. Here at great expense was erected by the late William H. Chadwick the largest and finest barn on the island, and subsequently a massive mansion. Ere the latter was fully completed Mr. Chadwick was overtaken with financial shipwreck which checked further operations, and the property has since been in the market. There have been offers for it refused of many times the price now paid, but it was held for a long time at \$15,000 and later at \$12,000.

The purchasers will in a measure carry out the intent of the builder. They purpose putting the property in first-class shape and will spend about \$10,000 in completing the house and other contemplated improvements and additions. Operations are to begin immediately and the house will be ready for occupancy by July, 1895. It will be adapted for the accommodation of 75 or 100 guests, and will be occupied as a first class club house under able management.

Aug. 16, 1894

FEBRUARY 27, 1926

"Friendly Afternoons".

The "friendly afternoons" of the Nantucket Neighbors are bringing great pleasure to an ever larger number of individuals. Seventy-five were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Farrier at Squam Head last Saturday. The big Chadwick House had been opened, the shutters down, some rooms cleaned, the tower opened, and the wonders of that great structure were revealed to an entranced company.

Dr. Farrier told the story of the building of the big house as a hunting lodge for a New York group who never took it over. Then he and some friends bought it for a community club. Later it was run as a hotel for a couple of seasons. French plate glass of great thickness, a complete steam heating plant, piping for gas, bank vaults in the cellar for the preservation of valuables were some of the fascinating features of the personally conducted tour through this unique structure. Many questions were asked and answered as the company sat comfortably on Dr. Farrier's commodious lawn. Also a trip through the "jungle" elicited enthusiastic comment from the nature lovers.

Aug. 20, 1932

The Hutton Place at Squam An Unusual Type of Architecture.

Out in that part of Nantucket known as Squam, on the east shore of the island between Quidnet village and Squam Head, have been erected a number of summer houses during the last five years. All have been of a type chosen by their owners for the living purposes desired.

Recently, however, there has been built in this section a dwelling which is not only different from the ordinary structure but unique among the architectural developments on the island. Mr. and Mrs. James Hutton, summer residents of 'Sconset, are the owners of this unusual place, and it will be occupied by them next season.

Under a low, curving hill that runs north and south towards Squam pond, Mrs. Hutton selected the site. The dwelling has been erected in the shape of a semi-circle, of one story throughout, and utilizing the center of the arc as the main section. This portion comprises the living room, 68 feet in length and 24 feet wide. A large window 11 feet by 5 feet six inches, commands the sweep of the shore and sea. Two other large windows on the angles of the room also share this view. A large fireplace is in the opposite wall. Over this fireplace will be placed a large mirror, hung so as to frame a living picture of the views reflected through the windows.

The building, in its entire length, is 405 feet, with the distance between the ends of the arc as 189 feet. On the northwest end is a five-car garage. Then come the servant's quarters of three rooms, a storeroom, the kitchen, butler's pantry, dining room, living room, six bedrooms each with bath, dormitory, and shower rooms.

The inside of the building has a covered walk, or ramp, while under the hill, in between the semi-circle, is a garden with terraces. On the outer side of the dwelling the landscape is to remain in its natural state, with rolling heathland to the shore. A round pond, called "Little Squam," adds an attractiveness to the scene, having only a narrow rise of ground separating it from the beach and ocean, a stone's-throw away.

A compact power plant supplies the electricity as well as pumping for a 1000-gallon water tank concealed in the ground. The power-house is some distance away, fitting into the landscape snugly.

Kenneth R. Hammond is the contractor who, in eleven weeks, with eight carpenters put up the dwelling. Inside finishing work now remains to be done, ideal winter work for the contractors in Nantucket. Thomas McGrath did the masonry and erected the three chimneys. Robert Blair has the contract for the wiring, and has completed the main part of his job. Chris Psaradelis, of 'Sconset, is the landscape gardener who will lay out the garden and grounds.

With only the roof showing from the road, well merged into the rolling contour of Squam, the Hutton place is certainly a distinctive bit of architecture, secluded in its natural setting. It is understood that a well-known tradesman's magazine contemplates an illustrated article devoted to this "new place at Squam."

Cottage at Squam Destroyed In Wednesday Evening Fire.

An unoccupied cottage at Squam, belonging to the estate of Le Grand Tibbitts, was totally destroyed by fire between 9.00 and 10.00 o'clock Wednesday evening. The blaze was noticed from Wauwinet and the alarm telephoned to town, but before the apparatus could reach the scene after a run of about ten miles, the place was doomed. The sound of the alarm 144 told the inhabitants that the fire was in the section of Wauwinet and there was the usual rush of cars out over the highway in the wake of the fire apparatus.

There was no supply of water available, and the chemical stream was practically useless, owing to the advanced stage of the fire. Efforts to secure water from a near-by pond were unavailing, and about all that could be done was to watch the fire burn and make sure that it was confined to the building.

The cottage was known as "Hen's Wing" and had not been occupied for several years. The last occupants were Dr. and Mrs. Roy Gilpatrick, who resided there several summers. Stored in the building, however, was furniture belonging to the Wauwinet Hotel, and two truck-loads were saved after the fire was discovered, the remainder being destroyed.

It is thought that the fire was started through the carelessness or thoughtlessness of a picnic party of young folks, who were seen in the vicinity during the day. The blaze originated in the kitchen of the building and after entering the place they may have started a fire in the stove, or it may have started from a cigarette. Whatever happened, the building was a total loss.

Squam.

O'er the hill and down the vale,
Rounding Quidnet's bay,
Fringed with many scented flowers
Perfuming the way—
Where the green and brown tinged moors
Meet the sea so calm,
There's a sense of joy and peace
On the road to Squam.

Neath the shade of a cherry tree
My summer cottage rests,
The swallows twitter round about
And in the eaves build nests,
The gentle zephyr from the moors
Gives to the air a balm,
O, there's no other quite so pure
As on the shore at Squam.

The sun sets on Nantucket bay
With variegated sky
The daylight as it fades away
So beautiful to the eye,
"Beside still waters, pastures green"
As sang in David's psalm
Portrays the quiet, the rest, the peace
In this old town of Squam.

The eel grass covered marsh I love
The walk along the dunes,
The running tide from out the cove
To me the best of tunes,
Some cross the sea to other climes
Some seek the southern palm.
My heart's content in my summer home
On Nantucket Isle at Squam.

Frank Obear.

St. Louis, March 17, 1909.

"Friendly Afternoons".

The "friendly afternoons" of the Nantucket Neighbors are bringing great pleasure to an ever larger number of individuals. Seventy-five were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Farrier at Squam Head last Saturday. The big Chadwick House had been opened, the shutters down, some rooms cleaned, the tower opened, and the wonders of that great structure were revealed to an entranced company.

Dr. Farrier told the story of the building of the big house as a hunting lodge for a New York group who never took it over. Then he and some friends bought it for a community club. Later it was run as a hotel for a couple of seasons. French plate glass of great thickness, a complete steam heating plant, piping for gas, bank vaults in the cellar for the preservation of valuables were some of the fascinating features of the personally conducted tour through this unique structure. Many questions were asked and answered as the company sat comfortably on Dr. Farrier's commodious lawn. Also a trip through the "jungle" elicited enthusiastic comment from the nature lovers.

Sixty-five gathered in the Methodist Vestry Tuesday afternoon to hear Dr. Herbert Sutcliffe of Australia lecture about Psycho-analysis and allied topics. He deeply interested his roomful of auditors, and when the hour and a half were up, many still stayed to discuss with him further. He set forth the contributions of Freud, Adler and Jung, using diagrams and the black-board. He discussed the sub-conscious self, dreams, repressions and suppressions, and exhibited a rare gift in making abstruse themes intelligible and interesting to the lay mind. Dr. Sutcliffe is lecturer before a Psychological Club in Providence, and also has branches of his New Thought school in Toronto and Montreal. He is guest of Miss Dwight at Monomoy this summer, and is assisting at several points in the musical programs of the Neighbors.

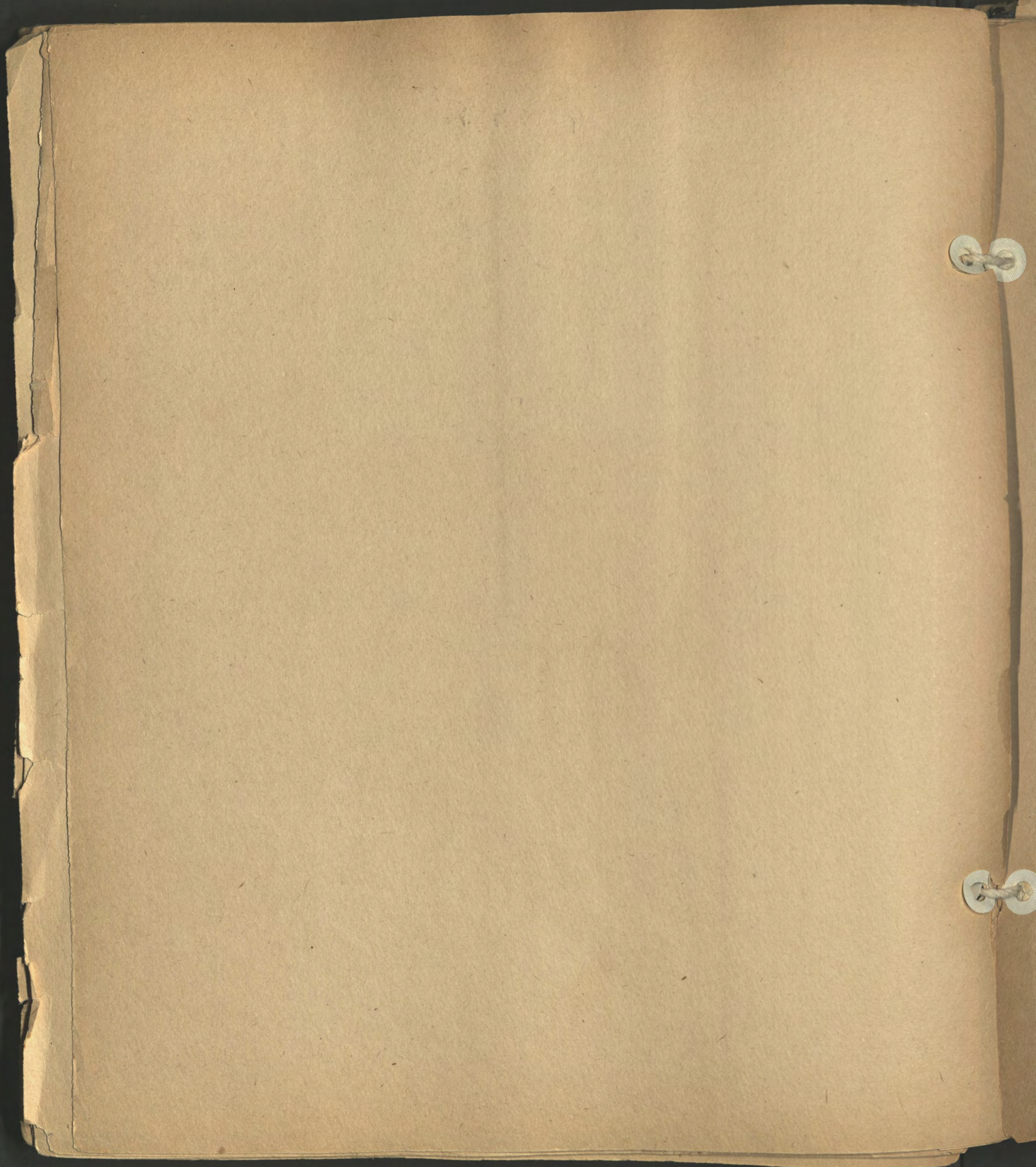
The announcements for the future are as follows:

Sunday, 8 p. m. Peace meeting North Vestry. Picturelog and address.

Monday, 8 p. m. Neighbors Night. Miss Florida Freibus in readings, Neal O'Hara in an entertaining lecture, and others.

Tuesday, 3.30 p. m. Friendly Afternoon in North Vestry. Mr. Bush-Brown, sculptor of Washington, D. C., will speak "Some Remarks by a Sculptor". A delightful personality and a most gracious speaker. Art lovers and others welcome.

Friday, 3.30 p. m. Meet at Hollywood Farm, Polpis, 'Sconset road just beyond junction of Quidnet road. Fred Magathlin host. Trip through his Jungle and Forest, conducted by Bassett Jones. One of the most interesting botanical regions on the island.



- Surfside

Weweeder Inn SURFSIDE

Open for business June 15.

SHORE DINNERS; also CHICKEN and LOBSTER DINNERS.

Afternoon Tea Served Every Day, Sundays and Week-days.

Private Dining-room for special parties in the new cottage.
For dates please notify one day ahead by card or leave word at the Main Street Bakery.

Rooms and Board by day or week.

ICE CREAM.

No better place to spend the afternoon. We invite all to use our large roomy porches, 125 feet on the water front—over 2400 square feet of porch room, free to all. Be sure to stop when out driving.

J. BUTLER FOLGER, Prop.

Weweeder Inn Tea Room

Opens Sunday, June 15th

Shore Dinners our specialty.
Bus starts Sunday June 15, one round trip daily, leaving town 2.30 p. m. returning 4 p. m. until further notice.

J. B. FOLGER, Prop.

Telephone 237-11.

The Surfside Road.

A new departure in road building on Nantucket has been tried on the road to Surfside, recently laid out by the county commissioners. Superintendent Gibbs has repaired the town end of the road and has it quite smooth and comfortable from its junction with Pleasant street out beyond Shearpen Hill. There is one section a short distance from Tashma Farm, however, which has too much crown and is causing drivers considerable concern, especially if they chance to meet another vehicle right at that point. The surface of the road built by Superintendent Gibbs is, however, a good piece of work.

From the end of the old road two straight furrows have been ploughed across the moors to Surfside, about 30 feet apart. The grass and brush in between the furrows has been burnt off, leaving a wide black streak extending across the moors for a mile or so. It is intended to have the roots of bushes and other rough spots removed and the "road" rolled down with a heavy roller. Teams and automobiles are then supposed to branch off from the main road onto the burnt section and by constant use wear a road down in about the same manner as the Cisco road was built at Hummock pond. The scheme may work out all right in time, but it is rather rough travelling over the new section of the Surfside road at present.

It is probable that the road will be rolled down today (Saturday), so that it may be opened for travel on Sunday. Of course it will not be as smooth at first as it will be after the autos have been using it a few weeks, but it is predicted that ultimately it will become a popular thoroughfare.

WEWEEDER INN SURFSIDE

Open Day and Evening

From 12 to 2 we will serve on order: Quahaug Chowder, Steamed Clams, Boiled Lobster, Fried Clams and Fried Fish.

SHORE DINNERS FOR PARTIES
BY APPOINTMENT

Afternoon tea served from 3 to 5 p. m. Ice Cream, Candies and Cold Drinks.

BROWN & JOHNSON, Props.

Take the "Surfside Bus".

Tel. 237-11.

Weweeder Inn

at Surfside will open for the season on Sunday, June 21.

Afternoon teas, ice cream and tonics served.

Bus schedule from June 21st to July 1st.

SUNDAYS

Leave Nantucket: 2.00 p. m.; 3.00 p. m.

Leave Surfside: 2.30 p. m. 5.00 p. m.

WEEK DAYS

Leave Nantucket: 10.30 a. m.; 2.00 p. m.; 3.00 p. m.

Leave Surfside: 12.00 noon; 2.30 p. m.; 5.00 p. m.

Leave near Atheneum Hall.
Round trip 50 cents, one way 35 cents

RICHARD J. PORTER, Prop.

May 10, 1919

Surf Bathing at Surfside Without Under-tow.

Editor of The Inquirer and Mirror:

In your last issue I enjoyed reading an article on old Surfside. One important summer attraction the writer did not mention is the excellent surf bathing that so many come here to enjoy every summer. Why is it so delightful? Because of the clear water, with no sea weed or dirty water, that one is apt to find several miles to the east of Surfside.

I hear every summer of some people telling the tourist that bathing is dangerous at Surfside, as there is an undertow there. This is not true. As a matter of fact, there is not one bit of undertow in front of the "Inn" and as far west as the "Point-of-Breakers." At that point there is an undertow on account of the shoal water.

That is why some of our people get the idea that all of the south shore has a bad undertow. They are mistaken and I hope they will not tell our visitors that any danger exists at Surfside.

Of course in a heavy surf it is not wise for any one to go bathing as the receding of the waves will take you off your feet many times, but that is not undertow, and only a very few times during the summer does this condition exist.

We have many summer people at Surfside every year who regret missing a day of our beautiful surf bathing.

J. Butler Folger.

June 19, 1925

The Surfside Hotel.

Do you recall where the Surfside Hotel once stood and when the railroad ran along between the hotel and the bluff? Where do you suppose the location would be today? Several hundred feet out in back of the surf, of course.

On the 1st of June, 1885, it was 265 feet from the hotel veranda steps to the edge of the bank. Then came more heavy storms and the bank was cut away some more. On the 5th of April, 1891, there was only 167 feet between the veranda steps and the edge of the bank, showing that in only six years the shore line had cut away practically 100 feet. And on the 27th of August in 1893 there was only 157 feet left.

At one time the surf pounded against the bluff only a few feet from what is now the Mannering cottage (then Dibble), and a bulkhead was built there in an effort to protect the property. Then the forces of nature changed their tactics and the beach commenced to build out, especially in front of the Surfside hamlet and the "Point-o'-breakers". Now there is a long stretch of beach there.

But when the hotel was erected at Surfside in 1883, and the railroad was running between the hotel and the edge of the bluff, there was a nice wide stretch of land there which has long since vanished. It was a singular thing that most of the severe storms which cut into the shore-line were "August storms" and did not come during the winter months.

The New Towers at Surfside.

Have you noticed how those two new steel towers show up at Surfside? The government has been installing a high-powered radio compass outfit there recently, which will give the station a much larger range of work than formerly. The value of this radio compass station to mariners has demonstrated itself many times the last year and the government considers the Surfside station the most important on the coast.

SURF-SIDE HOTEL, Nantucket, Mass.

This first-class hotel is now open for the reception of guests. The best situation of any hotel in Nantucket. The only hotel facing the Atlantic. The most modern hotel on the island. Steam heat, pure artesian water, electric lights and safe bathing. Terms, from \$12 per week. For further particulars apply to

All rooms light, lofty and capacious.

J. BOWDEN, Manager.

July 9 1925

Surfside and the Radio Station

By F. L. Ulrich, Rm 3, U. S. N.

The following article by Radioman F. L. Ulrich (who has been stationed at Surfside for the last fourteen months) appeared in a recent issue of "Our Navy", and with permission we reprint the same.

Radiomen Ashore.

The Navy department maintains many radio stations ashore. Over fifty of these are Radio-compass stations, which are located on both coasts, Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, Great Lakes, and the Canal Zone. The object of these compass stations is to furnish vessels with radio-compass bearings, which has proven to be a great aid to navigation. Instances are on record where many ships were saved from going aground during foggy weather, directing the vessel through the proper channels to make port safely. Credit is due the Navy's radio-compass stations for saving millions of dollars by eliminating disasters, also saving many lives from the briny deep.

About thirty miles south of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, lies the Island of Nantucket, which is one of the mariner's most important beacons as the light vessel which is stationed forty-five miles south south-east is actually the first accurate check for the navigator of a vessel. A ship ploughing its way from Europe has had no definite identification to prove that its position and course is actually correct until it sights some object making use of dead reckoning, in this case the Nantucket Light Vessel. Several days, even weeks or months, go by before such an opportunity occurs, the time depending upon the distance to be covered and the speed of the ship, also taking into consideration weather conditions. After being at sea for this length of time captains and navigators are real anxious for such a check. Not only is the check important for this reason, for if the light vessel is not sighted the ship is apt to run aground between Nantucket Island and the light vessel, as there are many sand bars and treacherous shoals between these points.

When the navigator of a vessel figures he is getting close to this light vessel, he requests bearings from the radio-compass station, located at Surfside, Nantucket Island, together with one or two others, located on the cape and down along the coast. His actual position can then be plotted from the bearings obtained from these stations. Knowing the exact location in longitude and latitude of the latter, the captain may then alter his course in the direction of the light vessel.

New York, being one of the world's greatest ports, is usually the destination which most vessels are bound for, and if they come from over the Atlantic they must follow the above procedure in order to get their ship safely into port. Another reason why so many radio bearings are requested from this compass station is that it is most always foggy in this vicinity. During the month of July, 1927, this station furnished 1136 bearings to vessels of the Navy and Merchant Marine, many of these foreign vessels—which is the largest number of

any compass station which Uncle Sam maintains.

During the last summer many bearings were also furnished to trans-oceanic fliers. Several were obtained on the "America", Commander Byrd's plane, and others. This station has been informed to always be on the lookout for the sighting of planes and to be ready to render them service when requesting bearings.

Radio compass bearings were furnished the S. S. Malolo, one of the newest large vessels, just recently built, which was on its shake-down cruise and went into collision during a heavy fog with another vessel 4 miles east of Nantucket Light Vessel. This vessel was thereby able to plot her exact position so that she could give it to ships nearby who were rushing to her assistance and the day was saved. There are many letter and reports in logs of many such cases, also many letters and messages from captains thanking these compass stations for their valuable assistance rendered them.

The title of this article as you noticed is "Radiomen Ashore." We know they also play an important part aboard ship, but we will not go into details about this kind of duty, as everyone has been to sea and knows what it is like for "Sparks". Business before pleasure—now that our work is done there is also recreation, I mentioned the fact that this station was on an island as are many others, this one being rather small, about 30 miles off the coast makes it rather difficult to get to the mainland very often, and the men are forced to seek entertainment and recreation on the island. The population is small, about several thousand, consisting of fishermen, retired business people, light-house keepers, and Coast Guardsmen. After the radioman comes off duty there are many things he can do. Right now hunting ducks and rabbits is very good. Then there is fishing and clamming and every now and then the folks get together and have a hot dog roast or a clam bake on the beach, especially when it's full moon. One can see it rise at the horizon when it's much larger than usual and kind of red. Then of course Uncle Sam doesn't forget us here on this island as we are furnished with the daily papers, books, magazines, athletic gear, victrola records, ammunition, and other supplies. This is quite a place in the summer time because so many people come here for a comfortable rest which they spend along the beaches absorbing the fresh breezes. There are several kinds of berries here which grow plentifully and may be picked if one has the ambition. We have a tennis court which is kept busy in the summer and a pool table which is kept occupied in the winter. Dances are given once in a while so as the sheiks may shine. So you see the radioman ashore has all sorts of experience along with his duty. I was told by a prominent physician that he believes the best position a young man can hold is that of a radio operator getting paid while he travels and has an opportunity to see and learn a lot of things. I have found it true. Such are the experiences of radiomen ashore while on duty for Uncle Sam.

FEBRUARY 25, 1928



SURFSIDE

SURFSIDE.—The Nantucket Surf-side Land Company are giving the place a vigorous airing through the Boston papers, and it would appear as though a healthy boom for that section had been inaugurated. It is one of the most delightful sections of our island, and is in every way what the advertisements of the company claim for it. The hotel property, which the company do not care to handle, is offered for sale. Another season is likely to witness a marked change along the southern bluff, there being a prospect of extensive building there.

Real Estate.
The Surf-side syndicate has sold to Mr. William H. Gwynn, of Cohoes, New York, the entire Surf-side property, including the hotel. The syndicate has sold much of this land during the year.

For the Inquirer and Mirror.
ATLANTIC AVENUE.
MESSRS. EDITORS:—We commenced our labors again April 13th, before the frost was really out of the ground, and have been at work almost continuously ever since. We have been alone all the while, though expecting some assistance which has been promised, but it has never appeared. We have now reached the railroad track and are at work near the crossing, the north side being nearly completed, or enough so to make a safe passage over. Probably another week will be required to finish it smooth and handsome. Meanwhile the Railroad Co. are bringing us some earth, which we are using to raise the grade, that the approach from either direction may be nearly level. The Surf-side Co. will now, we understand, lay out the avenue in a nearly straight line to their hotel, ploughing a furrow on both sides, giving a uniform width of fifty feet for the road. Whether they will in time make such a driveway as we have completed from the corner of Main and Pleasant streets to the railroad crossing is somewhat problematical. Should they extend the road it is not likely they will build it after our style, using brick and stone for the foundation. B.

For Sale or To Let.

—AT—
SURF-SIDE,

New Cottage Just Finished. Seven Good, Airy Rooms. Very Cosy and Convenient, with Good Closet Room and Excellent Well Water.

ALSO FOR SALE, COTTAGES, TO BE FINISHED BY JUNE 15TH, TO SUIT PURCHASER.

Surf-side House Lots.

Surf-side Bonds.

CHARLES F. COFFIN, Treas.

SURF-SIDE, - NANTUCKET.

Hop at Surfside.
The opening hop Thursday evening was a great success. At nine o'clock the grand march, led by Mr. Wm. Gwynn, the proprietor, and Mrs. Rogers, of St. Paul, followed by fully seventy couples, made a brilliant scene. The toilets of the ladies were the finest ever seen at a hop here, and almost all the gentlemen were in full evening dress. The second hop will be held on Thursday evening next. Some of the people who were there:—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wilmot and daughters Blanche and Dolly, Mrs. Risley and family, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. John S. Warnock, Misses Stiles and Northup, Misses Scott and Linsley, Miss Pardee and Miss Hunnewell, Mrs. and Miss Bogart, Mrs. Appleton, Miss Pierce, Mr. Isaac Hills, Mr. Cecil McCoy, F. Echeverria, Harold Graham, Reed Ferris, Leeds Mitchell, Will and Rob Appleton, Jack and Chouteau Dyer, Arthur and Tony Peck and Wilson Morris.

Sold.
The statement is made that the Surf-side Hotel property has been sold to Mr. F. J. Allen, of the Astor House, New York, and J. W. Jacobus, who will put it in thorough repair. The gentlemen are now here, accompanied by Mr. Peter B. Hayt, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and are stopping at The Sherburne.

Mr. Charles H. Robinson has nearly completed the large bowling alley at Surfside. It has two alleys, with room for a third if required. Everything is being done by the Messrs. Patterson to make the Surfside and its surroundings pleasant and attractive, and it is gratifying to note the gain it has made in popularity.

Surf-side Hotel.
This house was erected on the south shore of the charming island of Nantucket in the spring of 1883, and has won an enviable reputation as a first-class hostelry. It is fitted with all modern improvements, commands one of the finest water views on the New England coast, and is supplied with pure spring water. This house will be opened for the season June 20th, 1885. For full particulars and circulars, address
JOHN H. NORTON, Prop'r.

Surf-side Hotel.
Erected in the Spring of 1883, newly furnished throughout, and fitted with all modern improvements. This Hotel, beautifully situated on the South Shore of the charming island of Nantucket, commands one of the grandest ocean views on the New England coast. The house is supplied with the purest of spring water, and the tables with every delicacy procurable, and with experienced attaches in attendance, nothing will be left undone for the comfort of our guests.
G. W. MOORE, Manager. C. H. MOORE, Proprietor.

THE SURFSIDE, NANTUCKET, MASS.

Opens July 1st. A spacious hotel. All modern conveniences. Fine surf-bathing. Coolest resort on the Massachusetts coast. Rates 20 per cent. less than formerly.

F. L. PATTERSON, Manager.

je16-3m

See also "Out of Town."

[Written for the Inquirer and Mirror.]

An Evening at Surf-side.

Moonlight on the water: not the slumbering beauty of a mighty river, nor the sparkling radiance of a rippling brook, but the majestic grandeur of old ocean's self. A mighty army of white-capped breakers, advancing and retreating; the baffled powers of the sea, vainly struggling against the impassable bounds of Omnipotence.

A summer night at Surf-side: the sullen roar of the ocean protesting against the undignified strains of dance-music, which come to us from the brightly-lighted windows of the new hotel upon the south shore. Shall we yield to the subtle attraction of silvery waves and the "music of the deep," or be guided by an unconscious predilection for amusements of a gayer sort, to the spot where the flying feet are keeping pace with another sort of melody—a melody which "lures us with persuasive sound?"

Can it be that we are still upon Nantucket's quiet shore? Have we not, by invisible wings, been transported to some far-away spot? or, have we returned to the dead and buried past, and resurrected the youth of another and more prosperous era in Nantucket's history? Perchance there was no dancing in those departed days. Did not the religious faith of a devoted ancestry forbid such frivolous amusements? No doubt the youths and maidens of that far-off period had all the instincts which govern those of a later day; but was not the natural inclination for amusements which they possessed, most sternly repressed, and only allowed to develop itself in the harmless recreation of sheep-shearing and other distractions of a similarly harmless nature? It may be that in the gradual disappearance of the Friends from Nantucket, the severity of family discipline was somewhat relaxed, and that dancing finally succeeded the simpler amusements of an earlier day. At all events, the Nantucketers of the present generation fully appreciate the fascination of good music and a pleasant dancing-hall, and were well represented at the ball given by the ladies of the Surf-side Hotel on Tuesday evening. The combination of a magnificent surf and an exceptionally brilliant moon proved quite as captivating to the guests at Surf-side as "the invitation to the dance," and we are cognizant of the fact that some very serious love-making took place not only upon the beach, but upon the verandas of the hotel. "*Voyez la galere.*"

The ladies and gentlemen of the hotel first received their friends in the parlors, and then escorted them to the dining-room, where the dancing began at a little before ten. After the usual promenade, the ball was opened with a waltz. The order of dancing was as follows: Waltz, Polka, Lanciers, Racquet, Waltz, Polka, Lanciers, Racquet, Waltz, Polka and Virginia Reel. Unfortunately the "Dionis," our island engine, becoming impatient near the close of the festivities, the Virginia Reel was merged into a "rapid transit" from the hotel to the waiting cars. Those who did not depend upon the railroad facilities for their transportation to town, were permitted a more leisurely leave-taking; but all carried home with them the conviction that the ball at Surf-side had proved a decided success, and that the projectors of this scheme for our enjoyment deserved our heartiest thanks. We express the hope that our good behavior and gratitude for favors received, will insure us another agreeable experience of the same kind.

Among the many who were present at the ball, we desire especially to mention the ladies of the hotel, who so gracefully received and entertained their guests from town. Among the most prominent of these ladies we noticed:

Mrs. Charles F. Coffin, of Boston, who was dressed in black silk and wore a most gracefully arranged scarf of white Canton crape, ornaments opyx and pearls; Mrs. Norton, of Boston, in steel blue silk, honiton lace and diamonds, and Mrs. H. L. Van Wyck, from New York, in a beautifully-trained black silk, trimmed with jet passementerie and duchesse lace; her ornaments diamonds. The Misses Van Wyck were becomingly dressed in white with natural flowers, en garniture. Mrs. Judge Key, of Cincinnati, wore a magnificent point lace shawl, the envy of all the feminine hearts. Mrs. Lieut. Butler, of Fort Ellis, Montana, was arrayed in a charming combination of old gold satin and cherry lace; her magnificent diamond cross added much to the effect of her toilette. Mrs. E. B. Bradford, of Washington, black silk, white spanish lace and diamonds. Mrs. Eastman Johnson, wife of the artist, was handsomely dressed in garnet velvet and white lace. The absence of Mr. Johnson was regretted by all. His little daughter was charmingly dressed in pink cashmere, with white embroidery. Miss Pell, from New York, wore an aesthetic dress of silk, with a design in sunflowers. Miss James, of Northampton, an ecru muslin, garniture water lilies. Miss Florence Coffin, of Boston, blue albatross, trimmed with satin of the same shade, and white

spanish lace. Mrs. R. Gardner Chase, of Boston and Nantucket, a garnet silk, trimmed with white lace; Miss Lottie Chase, a becoming suit in crushed straw-berrie; Mrs. Winchester, of New York, ecru lace and satin over a blue skirt; Miss Lucy Morse, cream-colored cashmere and white lace. Mrs. Burris, from Brooklyn, white satin, panelled with green velvet, the front painted in a striking design of peacocks' feathers. Miss Glenn, of Cincinnati, blue silk skirt, black and white striped overdress; Miss Gould, of Chicago, pink nun's veiling, with jabots of satin ribbon. Miss May Dickinson, of Washington, D. C., blue silk embroidered in poppies and corn-flowers. Miss Douglass, blue 'nun's veiling. Miss Chadwick, of Chicago, white cashmere dress and a decidedly becoming evening bonnet. Miss Townsend, of Brooklyn, also wore a bonnet; her dress was blue albatross, a la vatteau.

Among others present were Mrs. H. N. James, Northampton, Mass., and the Misses James, Mr. Stott, Mrs. Chalfin, Mr. Porter, Miss Mullany, Miss B. Chalfin, Mr. Breed, Col. Chalfin, Mr. Bent, Horace Pettit, Miss Lizzie Folger, Miss Mamie Worth, Miss Nellie Bunker, Miss Shephard, Miss Fanny Shephard, Miss Dearborn, Mrs. Dougherty, Mr. William Starrevant, Mr. Collins Cooper, Mr. H. Starbuck, Miss Lorington, Mrs. T. C. Dickinson, Mr. Davidson, Mr. and Miss Shellabarger, Mr. Boylan Bradford, Washington, D. C., Mrs. A. E. Lucas, Mrs. John W. Potter and Miss Etta Lucas, New Bedford, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Coffin, Nantucket; Mr. Sidney Chase, Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Hammond and George F. Mackie, Boston; Mr. and Mrs. Hallett and Miss Merrihew, Salem; Mr. Rufus Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coffin, Mr. H. R. Sadler and Mr. Van Courtland Stebbins, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Worth, Brooklyn; Miss Carey and Miss Folger, San Francisco; Misses Grace and Edith Lake, Jersey City; Miss Tebbets, from St. Louis; the Misses Sloan, nieces of Charles O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Haylock and family, from Cincinnati; Miss Grimes, Mrs. and Miss Camfield and Mrs. Peck, Cornwall, N. Y.; Miss Worthington and Miss Rollo; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, Jersey City; Miss Lading, Philadelphia, Mrs. and Miss Baldwin, Auburn, N. Y., Messrs. Randall, Annapolis, Mrs. Devens and son, Brattleboro, Vt., Mr. Colwell, Cleveland, Ohio.

In concluding our account of the "Complimentary Hop" at the Surf-side Hotel, we must not fail to render a proper acknowledgment to the young gentlemen (Mr. Boylan Bradford, Mr. R. R. Shellabarger and Mr. Orville Coffin) who took upon themselves the arduous duties of a floor committee. Their kindly efforts in entertaining those who did not dance were as thoroughly appreciated as their endeavors to obtain partners for all the young ladies who desired to dance. As at all other summer resorts, so it is on Nantucket; the lack of a sufficient number of young gentlemen who can and will dance is severely felt. We are inclined to hope that the number of available young men will increase before we attend another hop at Surf-side.

A GUEST.

Aug. 18, 1883

PYROTECHNICS.—The large crowd who visited Surf-side Saturday evening to enjoy the promised pyrotechnic display, received the announcement of its postponement until the following Monday evening good-naturedly, all perceiving the weather to be unfavorable. The Railroad Company generously renewed all tickets to those in attendance, free of cost. On Monday evening the trains out were packed, the number in attendance being largely in excess of the Saturday evening assemblage, and the evening proved favorable for Prof. B. M. Wedger to exhibit his skilfully-wrought pieces. As the eight o'clock train delivered its passengers at the spot, bengola lights were burning, which brilliantly illumined the hotel and large space in front of it. The moon very considerably moved behind a cloud, and the display of smaller pyrotechnics was consequently much enhanced. The flying wheels, snake-pots, and other of the minor pieces were new, and were frequently applauded. The large set pieces at the close, representing Northern Lights and the American Star, and the final wreath, with "Surf-side, 1883" enclosed, were brilliant, the two latter being of marked excellence of design. They were received with much enthusiasm by the delighted crowd. It proved one of the best displays ever made here, and probably inaugurated a series of exhibits for future seasons.

Aug. 25, 1883

Riverside to Surf-side.

THE PIECEMEAL TRANSFER OF THE GREAT HOTEL.

Of the Riverside hotel, only the cellar now remains to mark the site thereof. For several weeks past, Mr. George H. Paddock & Son, with a gang of twenty-five workmen, have been engaged in taking the great building down and shipping its elements off to Nantucket. The work of demolition was successfully and skilfully accomplished, without accident or delay, and when the pieces have been put together again at Surf-side the building will stand as strong and complete as ever it was. Indeed, it is claimed that in some respects it will be a better building, because the lumber used in its construction has become well seasoned and there will be no shrinking. Nearly every part of the building has been so carefully preserved that it is in condition to be used over again in the reconstruction. About the only exceptions, are the under-floors of hemlock boards. The latter have been sold, and most of them are in shape to be used over again. But the clapboards will go on to the building again at Surf-side. The bricks and stones used in the construction of the hotel will also be shipped away with the rest of the material, and, in short, nothing that can be used over again will be left behind.

It would naturally strike a person that to tear down a large summer hotel, ship it by sea and land to a distant place, and then put it up again in as good condition as it was originally, is considerable of an enterprise, and demands no small degree of ingenuity and skill, for its accomplishment. All this is true, and yet there does not seem to be any reason to doubt that the work will be successfully done, that next season the structure which had become so familiar a landmark upon the shore of Providence river, will stand in all its integrity, and looking still the same at Surf-side, upon the island of Nantucket. A good deal of care had to be exercised in taking the building apart, and as far as practicable all of the parts were numbered so that each will readily find its proper place when the building is restored. In the first place, all the "inside finish" was removed, including doors and doorways, window sashes, &c. All of these things were sent away upon a schooner, the vessel making a quick and successful passage, returning within a week. The workmen next proceeded to take down the building, beginning at the roof and working downward. They worked from a staging which surrounded the building. As far as practicable the roof was sawed up into sections, but the long plank were taken off separately. The roof contained twenty-six domer windows, and all of these were removed, each with its adjoining planking at the sides. A section was also made of each corner of the roof. In taking away the stories below the roof, the long planks above and below the windows were removed separately, but the planking between the windows was sawed out in sections, the studding to which the boards were nailed holding them together. As each part was taken away, it was lowered carefully to the ground, and in that way the work went on from day to day, until the last vestige of the building had been removed. Of course this is a very general way of describing the work, as there were many auxiliary problems constantly arising as to special features of the structure, such as piazza, for instance. The building was shipped to Nantucket upon the deck of a vessel entire.

Now, in order to load the planks and joists and sections aboard the vessel, it was necessary to carry them the whole length of the long pier which extends far out into the river from the Riverside shore. This pier the Messrs. Paddock found had decayed and broken considerably at the end where it joins the land, and to make it safe they filled in this place with mortar and other rubbish from the hotel. They then laid joists from the building along the pier length-wise, so as to form a "run," over which to carry the lumber to the vessels. Five lumber trucks, which are little more than so many pairs of wagon wheels were procured, and these were very successfully used in running the lumber down on the wharf, for after they had been loaded it required very little exertion to move them along over the run, and the fact that a portion of the wharf is upon a down grade made it all the more easy.

Three cargoes of the hotel have already been shipped, and it is estimated that the material remaining will make about four more good cargoes. The vessels land the material at Commercial Wharf, Nantucket, where Mr. Charles Frederick Coffin, treasurer of the Surf-side Hotel Company, stands ready to superintend its discharge. Surf-side is two miles and a-half away, and it must be loaded upon cars and carried that distance by rail before the site of the hotel is reached. Taking it all in all, therefore, it is very clear that it is no small job to carry a hotel from Riverside, R. I., to Surf-side on Nantucket Island.

The work of rebuilding the hotel will probably be commenced upon this winter, pushed forward as rapidly as possible in the spring, as it is intended to have it open for the reception of guests next season.

The Surf-side Company did not purchase the pier at Riverside, but only the hotel and its adjuncts. The cookhouse, which stood in the rear, they do not propose to take away. The picket fence was quite an important item to the inventory, as there were seven hundred feet of it, and it was a fence of very good quality. The Messrs. Paddock say that the hotel was a well-built structure, fully up to the average of summer hotels in that respect.—*Providence Journal.*

Dec. 16, 1882

AT SURFSIDE.—The topic of conversation this week has been the transfer of a large tract of land at Surfside to the New York parties who recently purchased the hotel property.

Work upon the hotel is to be hurried forward in order that the hotel may be opened this season, under the proprietorship of Mr. E. H. Spooner, of New York, who has been in Boston with Mr. G. E. Mooers of the Nantucket Furniture Co., selecting the furnishings. The carpenter work is to be done by Mr. William Field, the masonry by Mr. J. S. Appleton, jr., the plumbing by Codd & Allen, the wall paper by E. H. Jernegan, and the paint by H. Paddock & Co.

John Firth, Esq., one of the syndicate, is to have a handsome cottage built on the boulevard, near Nobadeer, by Mr. William Field. The house will be 25x33 feet, two stories, and veranda on all sides. It will face the boulevard, the rear being toward the ocean. Shade trees will surround the property.

The Surfside property is to be systematically laid out, and the excellent work done on Atlantic avenue by Mr. Joseph S. Barney will be taken up and continued by the Surfside Company, who are in no manner identified with the Coast syndicate.

May 10, 1890

WORK AT SURF-SIDE.—The progress of work upon the hotel at Surf-side has been retarded somewhat by the boisterous weather, but still the work is going along quite satisfactorily. The foundation is completed, the basement story in shape, the first floor covered, and one-third of the posts up. The first still day the remainder of the raising will be completed, and then the work can go on briskly in the hands of the twenty-five workmen now employed there.

A well is being sunk to furnish water for the hotel. The water will be raised by a steam pump.

The hotel is to have apparatus for steam heating, and all cooking will be done by steam also.

March 24, 1883

The Naval Radio Compass Station at Surfside.

Fred L. Ulrich in "Our Navy".

Approximately thirty miles off the southern coast of Massachusetts is the little isle of Nantucket, being three miles wide and fourteen miles long. Numerous shoals surround the island and navigation in the immediate vicinity is quite dangerous, therefore, ever since the development of the direction finder or radio compass, the Navy Department has had in operation on the island this valuable and important aid to navigation.

Mariners from ports the world over take radio bearings at this point while inward bound for New York, or when desirous of making a turn at Nantucket Lightship while Boston bound. This island is the first land contacted after crossing the Atlantic. Since it began operation thirteen years ago, the radio compass station has proved to be of great assistance in setting ships on their proper courses and saving life and property at sea.

In the DCO's office up in Boston there may be found many letters of thanks and other correspondence relating to bearings furnished during times of anxiety and great need. The radiomen of the Navy who are detailed here receive remarkable training and experience, namely, that of tracking and plotting the courses and positions of vessels at sea; lending the mariner a big hand in peace time, and playing a great and important role in time of war. There is no charge for radio bearings furnished by these naval stations, and they are given just as quickly and accurately to commercial vessels as to our own men-of-war.

The strategic position of Nantucket Island makes it one of great importance and we can readily see from the logs and records that this compass station is very active., in fact it holds the record for giving the largest number of bearings per month, topping the list of fifty-five radio compass stations maintained by the Navy in the United States and its possessions. The best record made by this station totaled 3221 bearings furnished during the month of July, 1931. The regular average runs between 1500 and 2000 per month.

During recent years many radio bearings have been furnished to aircraft. At the present time, once a week, as regular as clock work, the German mail planes from the steamers "Bremen" and "Europa" are furnished with radio bearings as they pass the island on their way to New York. They leave their vessels some 700 miles east of New York and bring the mail a full day earlier to the various destinations.

Our Naval dirigibles have done some fine work in calibrating these compass stations, and bearings are furnished in the air as well as on the water. Many of the trans-Atlantic planes have made use of this station. There are some forty-five vessels of the New England fishing fleet which operate on Georges Banks that make considerable use of this station throughout the entire year.

Nantucket Island is one of the many remote points where radio stations must be maintained, and in spite of its small size and outlying position, the men stationed here find interesting recreation when off duty. There isn't enough time available to go ashore, as it takes four hours by steamer to reach the mainland, hence during that time off, they can indulge in swimming (the beach being close by) hunting, fishing and athletics. Dances are held once a week, and you will always find a shiek among the radio gang who will show the natives how to strut their stuff. Clambakes and beach parties are the high spots during the summer months when there are many vacationists on the island.

Sam Cohen SC2-c, cook and chef of the station, has some of the most modern equipment to turn out the most delicious and appetizing dishes. There are no growls about the grub while Sam holds down the job. His gear consists of an electric refrigerator, electric stove, wardroom silverware, hot and cold water facilities, toasters, mixing bowls, and the usual amount of other dishes including some of the best linen table cloths.

Everything is up to snuff here in the district. When the District Communication Officer decides to hold an inspection, he sends a message to the radioman in charge the day before, and flies down the next afternoon, makes his inspection and returns to Boston in time for supper. The distance of 100 miles between Boston and Nantucket Island is covered in a little less than an hour.

The equipment at the station is constantly modified and kept up to date. The compass is frequently calibrated so that efficient and reliable bearings may always be furnished.

At the present writing we have a fine group of men here at the U. S. Naval Radio-Compass Station (NBS) Surfside, Nantucket Island, Mass. They are: F. E. Smith CRM (in charge of station), W. A. Richards RM-2, R. J. Munkittrick RM-2, J. J. Wlazlo RM-2, S. Cohen, SC-2.

To these men goes the credit of keeping the ships off the rocks and shoals, and guiding them safely to their ports through thick black nights when fog and storm raise havoc at sea.

[At the time the above article was written our correspondent along with Mrs. Ulrich was vacationing on Nantucket Island. Being an ex-Navy Radioman and now an engineer with the Municipal Broadcasting System of New York City, Fred naturally turned to the Naval Radio-Compass Station for his bearings. Thus, this interesting story.—Editor]

Hosts of Weweeder Inn Entertained Guests.

On Monday evening, August 31st, with the moon hanging high in the heavens, Mrs. Mary Brown and Fred Johnson, the hospitable hosts of Weweeder Inn, entertained the guests with a ride along the shore and over the moors. A stop was made at Quidnet, where refreshments were served at "Wampawdongo," Mrs. Brown's home. The air resounded with songs and laughter of the happy group as the auto sped over the roads.

In the party were Major and Mrs. Purcell, Mr. John Purcell of Washington, Sarah Murphy of Worcester, Alice Mary Brown of Framingham, Marie Sullivan of Dorchester, Margaret McCrossan of Boston, Margaret Reid of Somerville, Captain Allen Peck of Fort Wayne, Blondina Basset of New Haven, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz-Gadolin of New York, Parry Moon of Cambridge, Ruth and Margaret Scott of Rome, New York; Frank Collins of Providence, Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Grout of Brooklyn, and Captain Everett Joy of Nantucket.

The Inn is yours!
Its portals open wide
And welcome you to all inside
The Inn is yours!

—Margaret Hope Reid.

Sept. 12, 1931

Surfside Notes.

A large school of porpoises passed close in shore Thursday afternoon and performed many acrobatic feats while crossing the "Point O' Breakers."

Oh, these glorious moonlight nights!
Where are all the young people!

It is reported that Mr. Robert Harper has sold his cottage and will return to Boston.

All the life-saving crew reported for duty Wednesday at midnight, and have ten months of Surfside before them.

A large white cat missing from Miacomet Cottage. Will the cat come back? We hope so.

We are glad to know that "the band" is to be in town. The music of the surf is all we want. Those preferring that better come out. A few choice lots still left.

The Surfside hotel is not open—except one end, which is very much so.

Quite a number of plaice fish are caught here daily.

Beach parties are on the increase. Have noticed a number under one umbrella.

Surf-bathing is fine these days.

Aug. 3, 1901

A Gala Day at Surf-side.

Surf-side on Thursday afternoon was as lively a spot as one could well wish to see. The weather was charming, and the hundreds of pleasure-seekers who gathered there, bent on an afternoon's enjoyment, wore smiling faces and were evidently as happy as they could wish. Everybody, so to speak, was there; the aged grandparent guiding the toddling child; the middle-aged, intent observers of the brilliant scene; youth in all the different phases of beauty and dress; and the romping children. All these people were attracted by curiosity and the announcement of an open-air band concert, and the throng kept swelling with each outward train over the Nantucket Railroad. The crowd started early, and "kept coming" late. The Railroad Company did all in their power to accommodate their patrons, setting aside their schedule time, and making trips as rapidly as they could with perfect safety, each train carrying a full load over to the scene of popular enjoyment. The little locomotive Dionis, since her advent here, has never been called upon to pull so large a company, which far exceeded, in point of numbers, the gathering of the numerous Coffin family at the same place about a year since; but she performed her work very satisfactorily until midnight, not a thing occurring to deter in any way the many trips she was obliged to run.

The first large transportation of passengers for the day was immediately after the arrival of the excursion steamer Monohansett, a large number of the three hundred passengers going out to enjoy the clambake prepared by Mr. Patterson. The Island Home, which did not reach her dock until after 1 o'clock, brought Hill's New Bedford Band, which marched directly to the train, and after discoursing some excellent music, were taken to Surf-side, where they dined. Their arrival seemed to be the signal for a general stampede, and the grounds about the depot at the shore soon took on the animated appearance of which mention has been made. It was indeed a gala afternoon. The surf breaking at the base of the long bluff, afforded sublime pleasure to the large concourse gathered on the beach—cager observers of the tossing billows; the choice selections discoursed by the band throughout the afternoon lent its charm to another larger company, while "all along shore" were merry groups, and couples to whom, perhaps, groups would have been a bore. Thus the afternoon passed, until the later hours called many faces homeward; but numbers remained to enjoy beach lunches, and the programme laid out for evening, which included a promenade concert and hop in the depot building. The concert opened at 7.30, lasting until 9.30. Every selection was performed in a manner that won the encomiums of those present. Hill's band was never in better trim, and its reputation has not diminished a bit since its performances here on Thursday. There was a large company in the hall, and each train added to the number, that outside increasing, of course, the more rapidly. At 9.30 Hill's Quadrille Band struck up for the opening dance, and merry feet were soon tripping to the enlivening strains. The occasion was one of rare enjoyment, the party being made up from among the best people upon the island. It was nearly midnight ere willing feet withdrew from the scene of pleasure, to take the last train in for home, all being loud in praise of the excellent music and prompting furnished for the occasion. The floor was very ably managed by Messrs. Alexander M. Myrick, Orville Coffin and J. B. Riddell.

It proved a bonanza day for the Railroad Company, about 2300 people being transported over their road; and not one of the company, we will wager, will disagree with us when we say that all interested in providing such an excellent entertainment and ample facilities are entitled to profuse thanks and general congratulations.

It was the biggest and best yet at Surf-side! Another treat is contemplated in about two weeks of a similar nature, of which due notice will be given; and promises of more extensive arrangements another season are already among the official returns.

Aug. 12, 1882

Before proceeding with the work of building the bicycle path to Surfside, the committee would like the wheelmen of Nantucket to indicate their preference of the three following routes: From Orange street, through by the Agricultural Society's grounds, connecting with the old Nantucket railroad bed at Atlantic avenue, and following that to Surfside; or connecting with and following the old railroad bed from the Hooper farm to Surfside; or from Pleasant street, via Atlantic avenue, across Miacomet valley, skirting the pine grove, across Weweeder valley, to Surfside. A verbal expression of opinion to either Henry P. Brown, A. G. Brock or R. B. Hussey may be made, or a postal card sent by mail to either. A prompt expression is desired, as the committee would like to get the work started as soon as possible.

Dec. 11, 1897

SURF-SIDE NOTES.—Mr. Charles H. Robinson has received the contract to make the improvements on the Life-saving Station, and work has already been commenced. The building will be lathed and plastered throughout, each entrance to the building be fitted with double doors; and an underpinning put under the house. During the continuance of this work the crew will lodge at the Surf-side House, arrangements having been made with the proprietor, Mr. Ramsdell, for that purpose. With these additions the crew will be able, undoubtedly, to keep more comfortable than they could last winter.

Nov. 20, 1895

FOR SALE OR RENT

FOR SEASON

"POINT-O'-BREAKERS"

AT SURFSIDE

Seven room house, bath, hot and cold water, set tubs.

About 350 feet of ocean frontage. Apply

C. H. WALLING, 19 Easton Street

1925

[Written for the Inquirer and Mirror.]

An Evening at Surf-side.

Moonlight on the water: not the slumbering beauty of a mighty river, nor the sparkling radiance of a rippling brook, but the majestic grandeur of old ocean's self. A mighty army of white-capped breakers, advancing and retreating; the baffled powers of the sea, vainly struggling against the impassable bounds of Omnipotence.

A summer night at Surf-side: the sullen roar of the ocean protesting against the undignified strains of dance-music, which come to us from the brightly-lighted windows of the new hotel upon the south shore. Shall we yield to the subtle attraction of silvery waves and the "music of the deep," or be guided by an unconscious predilection for amusements of a gay sort, to the spot where the flying feet are keeping pace with another sort of melody—a melody which "lures us with persuasive sound?"

Can it be that we are still upon Nantucket's quiet shore? Have we not, by invisible wings, been transported to some far-away spot? or, have we returned to the dead and buried past, and resurrected the youth of another and more prosperous era in Nantucket's history? Perchance there was no dancing in those departed days. Did not the religious faith of a devoted ancestry forbid such frivolous amusements? No doubt the youths and maidens of that far-off period had all the instincts which govern those of a later day; but was not the natural inclination for amusements which they possessed, most sternly repressed, and only allowed to develop itself in the harmless recreation of sheep-shearing and other distractions of a similarly harmless nature? It may be that in the gradual disappearance of the Friends from Nantucket, the severity of family discipline was somewhat relaxed, and that dancing finally succeeded the simpler amusements of an earlier day. At all events, the Nantucketers of the present generation fully appreciate the fascination of good music and a pleasant dancing-hall, and were well represented at the ball given by the ladies of the Surf-side Hotel on Tuesday evening. The combination of a magnificent surf and an exceptionally brilliant moon proved quite as captivating to the guests at Surf-side as "the invitation to the dance," and we are cognizant of the fact that some very serious love-making took place not only upon the beach, but upon the verandas of the hotel. "*Vogue la galere*."

The ladies and gentlemen of the hotel first received their friends in the parlors, and then escorted them to the dining-room, where the dancing began at a little before ten. After the usual promenade, the ball was opened with a waltz. The order of dancing was as follows: Waltz, Polka, Lanciers, Racquet, Waltz, Polka, Lanciers, Racquet, Waltz, Polka and Virginia Reel. Unfortunately the "Dionis," our island engine, becoming impatient near the close of the festivities, the Virginia Reel was merged into a "rapid transit" from the hotel to the waiting cars. Those who did not depend upon the railroad facilities for their transportation to town, were permitted a more leisurely leave-taking; but all carried home with them the conviction that the ball at Surf-side had proved a decided success, and that the projectors of this scheme for our enjoyment deserved our heartiest thanks. We express the hope that our good behavior and gratitude for favors received, will insure us another agreeable experience of the same kind.

Among the many who were present at the ball, we desire especially to mention the ladies of the hotel, who so gracefully received and entertained their guests from town. Among the most prominent of these ladies we noticed:

Mrs. Charles F. Coffin, of Boston, who was dressed in black silk and wore a most gracefully arranged scarf of white Canton crape, ornaments onyx and pearls; Mrs. Norton, of Boston, in steel blue silk honiton lace and diamonds, and Mrs. H. L. Van Wyck from New York, in a beautifully-trained black silk trimmed with jet passementerie and duchesse lace; her ornaments diamonds. The Misses Van Wyck were becomingly dressed in white with natural flowers, er garniture. Mrs. Judge Key, of Cincinnati, wore a magnificent point lace shawl, the envy of all the feminine hearts. Mrs. Lieut. Butler, of Fort Ellis, Montana, was arrayed in a charming combination of old gold satin and cherry lace; her magnificent diamond cross added much to the effect of her toilette. Mrs. E. B. Bradford, of Washington, black silk, white spanish lace and diamonds. Mrs. Eastman Johnson, wife of the artist, was handsomely dressed in garnet velvet and white lace. The absence of Mr. Johnson was regretted by all. His little daughter was charmingly dressed in pink cashmere, with white embroidery. Miss Pell, from New York, wore an aesthetic dress of silk, with a design in sunflowers. Miss James, of Northampton, an ecru muslin, garniture water lilies. Miss Florence Coffin, of Boston, blue albatross, trimmed with satin of the same shade, and white spanish lace. Mrs. R. Gardner Chase, of Boston and Nantucket, a garnet silk, trimmed with white lace; Miss Lottie Chase, a becoming suit in crushed strawberry; Mrs. Winchester, of New York, ecru lace and satin over a blue skirt; Miss Lucy Morse, cream-colored cashmere and white lace. Mrs. Burris, from Brooklyn, white satin, panelled with green velvet, the front painted in a striking design of peacocks' feathers. Miss Glenn, of Cincinnati, blue silk skirt, black and white striped overdress; Miss Gould, of Chicago, pink nun's veiling, with jabots of satin ribbon. Miss May Dickinson, of Washington, D. C., blue silk embroidered in poppies and cora-flowers. Miss Douglass, blue nun's veiling. Miss Chadwick, of Chicago, white cashmere dress and a decidedly becoming evening bonnet. Miss Townsend, of Brooklyn, also wore a bonnet; her dress was blue albatross, a la vatteau.

Among others present were Mrs. H. N. James, Northampton, Mass., and the Misses James, Mr. Stott, Mrs. Chalfin, Mr. Porter, Miss Mullany, Miss B. Chalfin, Mr. Breed, Col. Chalfin, Mr. Bent, Horace Pettit, Miss Lizzie Folger, Miss Mamie Worth, Miss Nellie Bunker, Miss Shephard, Miss Fanny Shephard, Miss Dearborn, Mrs. Dougherty, Mr. William Sturtevant, Mr. Collins Cooper, Mr. H. Starbuck, Miss Lorington, Mrs. T. C. Dickinson, Mr. Davidson, Mr. and Miss Shellabarger, Mr. Boylan Bradford, Washington, D. C., Mrs. A. E. Lucas, Mrs. John W. Potter and Miss Etta Lucas, New Bedford, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Coffin, Nantucket; Mr. Sidney Chase, Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Hammond and George F. Mackie, Boston; Mr. and Mrs. Hallett and Miss Merrihew, Salem; Mr. Rufus Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coffin, Mr. E. R. Sadler and Mr. Van Courtland Stebbins, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Worth, Brooklyn; Miss Carey and Miss Folger, San Francisco; Misses Grace and Edith Lake, Jersey City; Miss Tebbets, from St. Louis; the Misses Sloan, nieces of Charles O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Haydock and family, from Cincinnati, Miss Grimes, Mrs. and Miss Camfield and Mrs. Peck, Cornwall, N. Y.; Miss Worthington and Miss Rollo; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Suydam, Jersey City, Miss Lading, Philadelphia, Mrs. and Miss Baldwin, Auburn, N. Y., Messrs. Randall, Annapolis, Mrs. Devens and son, Brattleboro, Vt., Mr. Colwell, Cleveland, Ohio.

In concluding our account of the "Complimentary Hop" at the Surf-side Hotel, we must not fail to render a proper acknowledgment to the young gentlemen (Mr. Boylan Bradford, Mr. R. R. Shellabarger and Mr. Orville Coffin) who took upon themselves the arduous duties of a floor committee. Their kindly efforts in entertaining those who did not dance were as thoroughly appreciated as their endeavors to obtain partners for all the young ladies who desired to dance. As at all other summer resorts, so it is on Nantucket; the lack of a sufficient number of young gentlemen who can and will dance is severely felt. We are inclined to hope that the number of available young men will crease before we attend another hop at Surf-side.

A GUEST.

Aug. 18, 1883

AUCTION SALES.

Trustee's Sale of the Surf Side Estate in Nantucket.

WHEREAS, the Nantucket Surf Side Company, a corporation duly established under the laws of Massachusetts, did by deed, dated June 5, 1882, and recorded in Nantucket Registry of Deeds, Lib. 67, Fol. 196, convey to Henry Coffin, John H. Norton and Charles F. Coffin, certain real estate situated on the Island of Nantucket, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as set forth in said deed, to be held by them in trust for certain purposes therein set forth, and, among others, to secure the payment of the principal and interest of certain bonds to be issued as provided in said deed.

And whereas said deed provides for the sale of the granted premises in case of default in the payment of the principal or interest of said bonds, upon the continuance of such default for six months, and upon the written request of one-half in value of the bond-holders; and whereas default has been made in the payment of said bonds, which default has continued for the space of more than six months; and whereas the said trustees have in writing been requested by the holders of more than one-half in value of all said bonds now outstanding to sell and dispose of said premises with all the improvements thereon as provided in said deed.

Now, therefore, notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of said deed, and by virtue of the power and authority therein contained, the said trustees will, on Wednesday, the twentieth day of March, 1889, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, in front of the Surf-Side Hotel in said Nantucket, such place being near the premises hereinafter described, sell at public auction all and singular the premises described in said deed, except such portions thereof as have heretofore been sold and conveyed by said trustees under the provisions of said deed.

The premises hereby advertised to be sold are substantially as follows:

First.—A parcel of land described as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner thereof, at a point in the bank in the line of the Southeast quarter; thence northerly by the road about 336 feet; thence westerly bounded northerly by undivided land about 2909 feet; thence by our courses around the southerly extremity of and of Vincent, measuring respectively 688 feet, 475 and 9-10 feet, 438 and 10-100 feet, and 10 feet; thence westerly bounded northerly by undivided land 2990 feet; thence southerly by and of the heirs of Coffin 660 feet; thence westerly by said heirs' land 2450 feet; thence northerly by said heirs' land by two courses, 1200 feet and 140 feet; thence northerly by land of Vincent 2037 feet; thence westerly by the road 148 and 5-10 feet; thence southerly by and now or late of Myrick 2015 feet; thence westerly by said land of Myrick, by two courses, 2666 and 60-100 feet and 1065 feet; thence southwesterly by land of owners unknown 2410 and 10-100 feet; thence northwesterly by the road, 4576 and 80-100 feet; thence southwesterly by the South Shore road 125 feet; thence southerly by Atlantic Avenue, 2426 and 80-100 feet; thence easterly by Okowan Avenue, 827 and 10-100 feet; thence southerly by Myrtle street, 1000 feet; thence easterly by Pochick Avenue 1440 feet; thence northerly by Orange street, 1000 feet; thence easterly by Okowan Avenue, 240 feet; thence southerly by Masquetuck street, 1000 feet; thence easterly by Pochick Avenue, 3470 feet; thence southerly by a line parallel with Clay street, about 1881 feet to the bank; thence easterly by the bank to the point of beginning; be all of said measurements more or less. Excepting therefrom the following tracts:

1st.—All that strip of land conveyed for the location of the Nantucket Rail Road, containing by estimation 20 acres.

2nd.—About 5 acres set off to Peter Macy at Nobadeer.

3rd.—Ten acres set off to Elisha M. Hinckley.

4th.—Two tracts, containing respectively 56 985-1000 acres and 48 664-1000 acres, belonging to J. S. Barney and A. T. Mowry.

Said described parcel, exclusive of the excepted tracts, contains by estimation 900 acres more or less.

Second: A parcel of land bounded South-easterly by the South Shore Road 1441 feet; Northerly by land of Galen Orr 668 feet; Westerly by land of said Orr 1110 9-10 feet; Northerly by land of said Orr 1452 feet; Westerly by land of Macy 828 feet; and Southerly by the bank about 2000 feet; be all of said measurements more or less.

Third: All those lots of land shown on the plan of Section Two, Surf Side Lands, recorded in Nantucket Registry of Deeds, that have not heretofore been sold and conveyed by said trustees, said remaining lots being situated mostly between Pochick and Weweeder avenues, and containing by estimation 12 acres more or less. Also all other lands and real estate conveyed to said trustees by said first-mentioned deed and now held by them under the terms of said deed.

Terms will be made known at time and place of sale. For further particulars of said sale apply at the office of the Massachusetts Title Insurance Company, 23 Milk St., Boston, Mass., or to Henry Coffin, Nantucket, Mass., one of said trustees.

HENRY COFFIN
JOHN H. NORTON } Trustees.
CHARLES F. COFFIN

TRUSTEES' SALE OF

Real Estate.

WHEREAS, THE NANTUCKET SURF-SIDE COMPANY, a corporation duly established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, did by deed dated the fifth day of June, A. D. 1882, and recorded with Nantucket Registry of Deeds, Liber 67, Folio 196, convey to the undersigned certain real estate therein described, situated in the Town and County of Nantucket in said Commonwealth, to be held in trust by us for whomsoever might become the holders of certain bonds therein provided for and described upon the conditions therein set forth, and to be sold and disposed of by us, as therein authorized and empowered;

AND WHEREAS, by the terms of said deed and said bonds, said bonds and the interest coupons thereto attached have at the date hereof all become due and payable;

AND WHEREAS, by the terms of said deed the undersigned are empowered to sell and dispose of any and all said real estate whenever said bonds and coupons become due and payable, and whenever so requested in writing by the holders of a majority in value of the bonds at such time outstanding;

AND WHEREAS, we the undersigned have been requested in writing by the holders of a majority in value of said bonds at the date hereof to sell and dispose of such portion of said real estate, as at the date hereof now remain unsold and undispensed of at public auction for the purposes named in said deed;

Now THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that by virtue of the authority contained in said deed in pursuance of the terms hereof and for the purposes named therein, we shall sell at public auction on Wednesday, the thirty-first day of August, A. D. 1887, at three o'clock, P. M., near Surf Side Hotel in said Town and County of Nantucket, on the premises described in said deed, all the real estate described in the deed, Nantucket Surf Side Company to Henry Coffin, John H. Norton and Charles F. Coffin, Trustees, dated June 5, 1882, and recorded in Nantucket Registry of Deeds, Liber 67, Folio 196, to which reference is hereby made, excepting those lots of said real estate which have been heretofore sold by us as said Trustees. Said real estate contains nine hundred acres, more or less, and will be sold together as one lot for so much per acre, the same to be surveyed and a map thereof drawn, at the expense of undersigned. Terms Five Hundred Dollars at time of sale, remainder at delivery of deed.

HENRY COFFIN,
JOHN H. NORTON, } Trustees.
CHARLES F. COFFIN,

al3-3t

Surf-Side Hotel Estate at Auction.

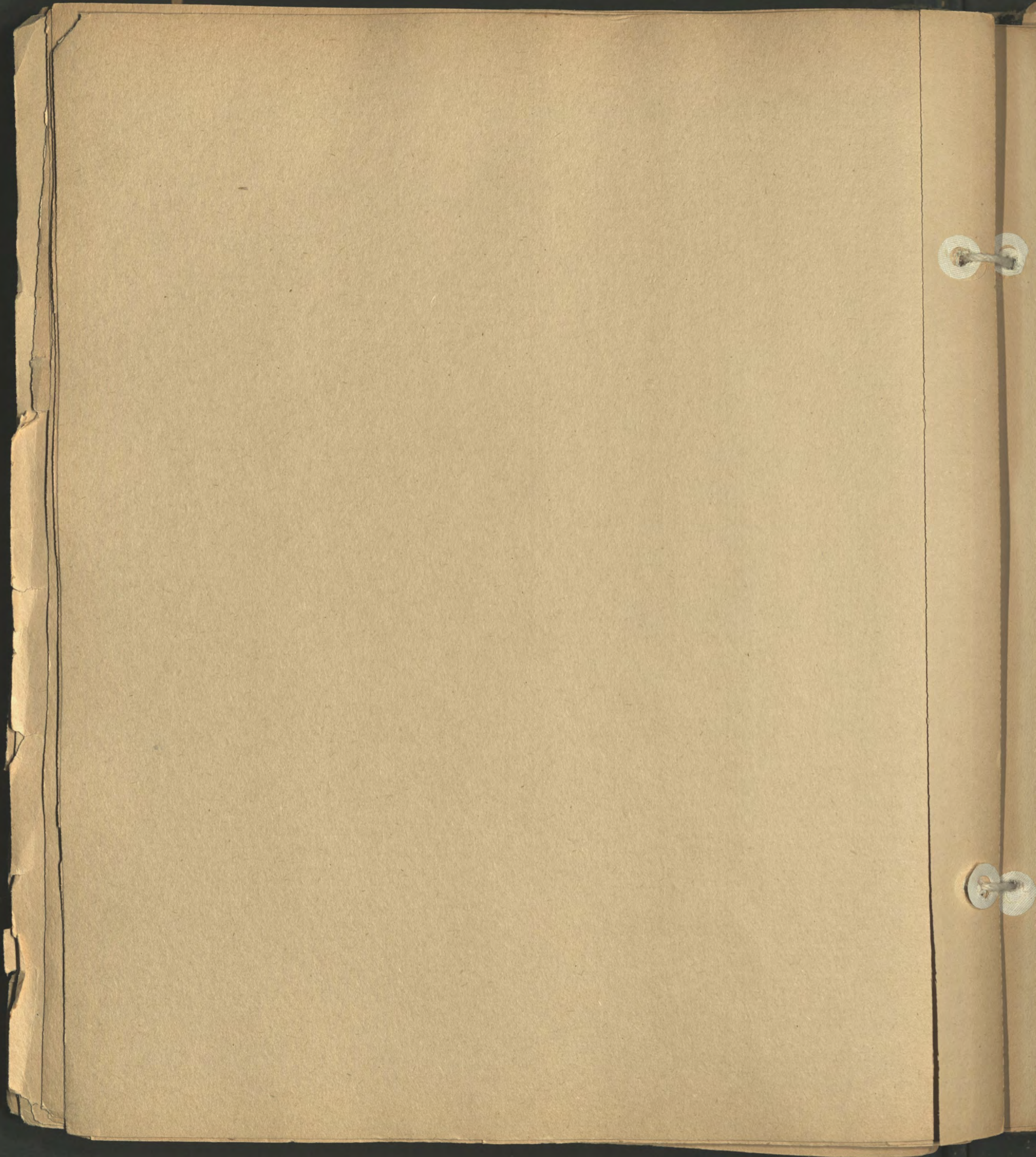
Mortgagee's Sale of Real Estate.

BY virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by John H. Norton to Arthur W. Tufts, dated March 2nd, 1885, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for the County of Nantucket, libro 69, folio 463, will be sold at public auction for breach of the conditions of said mortgage, on the premises, on Tuesday, the first day of November, 1887, at four o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises conveyed by said mortgage deed, namely:—A parcel of land situated in Nantucket, in the County of Nantucket and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in Section two (2), Block 231, of the estate called Surf-Side Lands of Nantucket, together with the building thereon. Said estate is bounded as follows: Beginning at Northwesterly corner of Atlantic Avenue and Hawthorne Street and running North 69 degrees, 24 minutes West along the Northerly line of Atlantic Avenue two hundred and two-tenths (200.2) feet to a post; thence North 18 degrees East, along the Easterly line of Central Avenue five hundred eighty-five and six-tenths (585.6) feet to a post; thence South 72 degrees East along the Southerly line of Nobadeer Avenue two hundred (200) feet to a post; thence South 18 degrees West along the Westerly line of Hawthorne street five hundred ninety-four and nine-tenths (594.9) feet to the point of beginning, and containing one hundred and eighteen thousand and thirty (118,630) square feet. Being the same premises conveyed to John H. Norton by Edward W. Leavitt by deed dated February 21st, 1885, and duly recorded, and subject to the conditions in said deed set forth. The plan on which said Section and Block is shown, is duly recorded in Nantucket Deeds. For further particulars inquire of Kern & McLoud, 23 Court St., Boston. \$1000 will be required to be paid in cash by the purchaser at the time and place of sale.

ARTHUR W. TUFTS, Mortgagee.
Boston, October 1, 1887. os-3t

Oct 8 1887

March 2, 1889



SURFSIDE.

Section 1.

Blocks 34, 35, 37, 38, 48, 50, 53 entire.

Lots	Total	Block
79 to 88, 94, 95, 97, 99	14	49
1, 2, 5 to 19, 23, 24	19	54
1 to 12, 15 to 24	22	130

Total—55 houselots.

Section 2.

Blocks 52, 104, 150, 156, 157, 160, 183, 242, 244, 250, 260, 269, 288, 304, 319, 321, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 710, 801, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 810, 811, 812, 901, 902, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909 entire.

Lots	Total	Block
25, 26	2	96
5 to 23	19	98
1 to 25	25	119
5, 6	2	120
13, 14	2	134
14 to 17	4	135
2 to 5, 11 to 18	12	151
11 to 20	10	152
1 to 20	20	154
5 to 39	35	155
12 to 31	20	164
5, 6, 9 to 12	6	167
5 to 34	30	168
11 to 40	30	171
1 to 10	10	173
28 to 30	3	181
1 to 5, 16 to 20	10	184
1, 14 to 17	5	185
3, 4	2	232
1 to 7, 9 to 38	37	251
10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30	7	256
1 to 13, 30 to 34	18	258
11 to 15, 34 to 40	12	259
17, 18, 26, 27	4	261
13 to 23	11	262
20 to 23, 25 to 29	9	268
1 to 9	9	270
17 to 32	16	277
1 to 6, 11 to 15, 25 to 27, 29 to 32, 37, 38	20	278
1 to 18, 34 to 38	23	280
1 to 17, 27 to 34	25	285
1 to 9, 13, 37, 38, 39	13	286
25 to 39	15	295
6 to 16, 25, 31, 32, 33, 36	16	298
14 to 33	20	299
1 to 4, 15 to 34	24	303
6 to 11	6	317
1 to 5, 10	6	318
1 to 4, 17 to 26, 29 to 34	20	380
1 to 4, 15 to 34	24	381
9, 10, 11	3	500
15 to 32	18	501
30 to 37	8	503
3 to 8	6	601
15 to 31	16	602
1 to 14, 19 to 38	34	603
20 to 27	8	604
24 to 27	4	605
4 to 8	5	607
24 to 27	4	608
24 to 38	15	609
10, 11, 16 to 23, 26, 27, 33, 34	14	610
1 to 9, 28 to 38	20	613
36, 37, 38	3	709
20 to 36	17	802
1 to 27, 91 to 193	130	914

Total—887 houselots.

Real Estate Owned by the Town.

Tax Collector Gardner has completed the task assigned him by the last annual town meeting, of compiling, revising and grouping the list of real estate owned by the town, and has filed with the assessors a classified statement of the same, a copy of which we publish below. The bulk of this comprises Surfside and Smooth Hummocks lands taken by the town for non-payment of taxes during the past dozen years, title to which was confirmed by the recent final sale of unredeemed property. These comprised upwards of one hundred and fifty individual holdings, scattered among little more than half as many blocks as now listed, and much of it is grouped in parcels of from one to a dozen acres, available to purchasers. The proceeds from the sale to individual buyers covered all expenses of proceedings to date and netted a snug balance to the town treasury. Land acquired by the town for road purposes or the relocation or widening of streets and highways, is not included in the following list.

Aug. 29, 1911

SURFSIDE MATTERS.—The surveyors who have been at work at Surf-side for the past fortnight, completed their work for the present last Thursday, having surveyed the land near the bank to the distance of a mile east of the depot.

The Surf-side Company have laid out a fine road-way along the whole shore front, south of the Railroad and following the course of the track, as far south as "shearpen corner," where it will cross the track and be extended to meet Atlantic avenue at its present terminus, the whole road to be known as Atlantic Avenue. A branch from the road, which will join it near its intersection with the railroad track, will continue along the edge of the pine grove to the eastward, and down what is laid out on the new plot as Central avenue, to the site set apart for the hotel.

We are officially informed that sixty house-lots have been already disposed of, on six of which, cottages are guaranteed by the purchasers before another season. One party, who has purchased ten lots, agrees to put up a handsome cottage each year until all his land is covered.

Work will be commenced upon a cottage of very attractive style as soon as the contracts can be completed, which, it is thought, will be done in the course of a few weeks.

July 22, 1882

SHORE LOTS AT NANTUCKET.—A boom in Nantucket lands is being worked up by the Nantucket Surf-side Land Company, office 46 School street, Boston, who offer for sale during the next 30 days a limited number of choice selected shore lots in Nantucket. Conspicuous advertisements have appeared in the leading Boston papers,

May 23, 1899

Tax Collector's Notice

TOWN OF NANTUCKET

Sale of Unredeemed Real Estate

In conformity with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the public and all persons interested as former owners or occupants of each of the following-described parcels of real estate situated in the town of Nantucket in the county of Nantucket and Commonwealth aforesaid, are hereby notified that said parcels have been conveyed according to law to said town of Nantucket for non-payment of taxes and assessments and the time within which each of the estates might be redeemed by the owners thereof having expired, each of said parcels will be offered for sale in accordance with Section 68, Chapter 490, of the Acts of the year 1909, by public auction at the office of the Collector of Taxes in said Nantucket, on SATURDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF APRIL, 1911, at ten o'clock, a. m., and to the highest bidder for each of the several parcels a quitclaim deed will be delivered. For further particulars reference is made to the Registry of Deeds for the County of Nantucket, the volume and page numbers following the description of each parcel indicating the record of deed under which the said town of Nantucket now holds title to the estates described.

The sums set against the various estates show the amounts due thereon respectively for the taxes and assessments, for the non-payment of which said estates were sold to the said town of Nantucket, together with the subsequent taxes and assessments, interest on the same, and all lawful costs and charges. And none of the said estates will be sold for less than the amount set against the said estates, respectively. Said estates are sold subject to 1911 taxes.

ARTHUR H. GARDNER,
Collector of Taxes for the Town of Nantucket.

Former Owners.	Location and Description of Land.	Book-Page.	Amount.
William H. Putman, Lot No. 2, Wannacommet, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre		81-555	\$13.00
Heirs of Eben R. Folger, Land, Shimmo, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre		88-516	9.96
Smooth Hummocks Division.			
Mary C. Floytrop, Lots 66 and 68, Share 8		87-436	7.10
Frederick W. Bailey, Lots 159 and 160, Share 8		87-496	7.10
John E. Bailey, Lots 161 and 162, Share 8		87-496	7.10
Franklin Rolfe, Lots 226 to 248, 250, 252, Share 8		84-151	16.52
S. M. McIsaac, Lots 283, 285, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, Share 8		84-153	10.71
Ralph H. Harris, Lots 307, 309, 311, Share 8		87-496	7.20
Charles H. Easton, Lots 326, 328, Share 8		81-465	12.03
Matthew Lans, Jr., Lot 333, Share 8		81-503	12.63
A. D. Barker, Lot 334, Share 8		87-496	7.97
Frank H. Gray, Lots 14 to 16, Share 10,		81-488	11.70
B.B. Johnson, Lots 16 to 19, 55 to 85, 95 to 123, Share 10		81-7	44.86
Henry Huck, Lots 22, 124, 124 $\frac{1}{2}$, 125 Share 10		81-358	12.00
Luke K. Blair, Lots 88, 89, 92, Share 10		81-419	11.70
Frank Hayes, Lot 254, Share 10		81-497	11.42
Dorrance Littlefield, Lots 34 and 35, Share 13		81-510	11.57
Kate Alcean, Lot 83, Share 16		81-398	11.42
Surfside Lands.			
Alexander Ayers, Blocks 905, 906, 907, 908		81-220	49.41
George Arnold, Lots 15 to 28, Block 381		81-328	14.64
James F. Amsden, Lots 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, Block 185		81-403	13.50
H. F. Amsden, Lots 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, Block 186		81-405	13.69
Orrin C. Benjamin, Lots 10 to 17, 27 to 33, Block 285		84-156	14.52
Thomas P. Brown, Lots 1 to 25, Block 119		81-335	16.04
N. H. Bush, Block 183 and Lots 1 to 5, 16 to 20, Block 184		81-223	37.50
Hugh J. Brady, Lots 1 to 9 and 34, Block 285		81-415	13.77
Emanuel E. Bleo, Lots 5 and 6, Block 380		81-417	12.79
Frank Bailey, Lots 11 to 40, Block 171		81-331	16.98
Walter E. Burton, Block 52		81-337	16.36
Eugene F. Belden, Lots 7 to 13, Block 104		81-422	13.39
Benjamin Baugh, Lots 39 and 40, Block 259		81-424	12.79
Gustave Bates, Lot 1, Block 180		81-426	12.63
Edgar W. Childs, Lots 9 to 16, Block 251		81-340	13.90
Alice Comfort, Lot 10, Block 280		81-428	12.63
Emily J. Cartwright, Lots 1 to 10, Block 208		87-504	7.95
Mary A. Murray, Lots 26 and 27, Block 610		87-504	7.09
J. W. Cartwright, Block 191, Lots 1 to 4, 17 to 20, Block 178		86-226	17.12
Annie B. Clapp, Blocks 156 and 157		86-224	21.15

Aug. 29, 1911

over

William O. Campbell, Lots 24 to 27, Block 603	81-435	13.00
Kate S. Clark, Lots 37 to 39, Block 286	81-437	13.00
Rose A. Cook, Lots 11 and 12, Block 130	81-442	12.79
Josephine C. Davis, Lot 13, Block 286	81-449	12.63
Robert J. Dolan, Lots 5 and 6, Block 251	81-459	12.79
Charles F. Darlington, Lots 11 to 18, Block 280	81-344	13.90
Michael Ehrigott, Lots 24 to 27, Block 605	81-349	13.30
Conway G. Ferguson, Lots 17, 18, 26, 27, Block 201	81-463	13.00
Harry Firth, Lots 1 to 15, 32 to 38, Block 89	81-230	31.33
Albert W. Furber, Blocks 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706	81-351	41.47
Catharine F. Fitzmorris, Lots 6 and 7, Block 173	81-472	12.79
Helen F. Fisher, Lots 8 and 9, Block 173	81-475	12.79
William H. Ford, Lots 19 and 20, Block 186	81-479	12.79
Francis E. Gerbert, Lots 10 to 13, 30 to 33, Block 258	81-481	13.50
David George, Lots 17 to 26, Block 380	81-484	13.77
William E. R. Harper, Lots 2 to 4, Block 151	81-493	12.90
Arthur A. Hayden, Lot 21, Block 251	81-495	12.63
Lemon P. Harding, Lots 12 to 31, Block 164	81-235	29.76
Harry W. Heidenburg, Lots 1 to 3, Block 509	81-499	12.90
Robert W. Hull, Lot 29, Block 278	81-501	12.63
May H. Johns, Lots 15 to 32, Block 501	81-237	24.60
Theresa J. Johnson, Lots 1 to 9, 28 to 38, Block 611	81-362	15.42
Cora E. Johnson, Lots 25 to 39, Block 225	81-364	14.79
Harris Kroningold, Lots 33 and 34, Block 610	87-500	6.04
John S. Lee, Lots 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 29, 30, Block 256	81-367	13.79
Mary E. Lewis, Lots 1 to 8, Block 286	81-369	13.90
Charles A. Lindsey, Lots 17 to 26, Block 303	81-371	14.17
Hosea W. Leach, Block 269	81-242	60.84
John W. Leach, Lots 1 to 4, 25 to 38, Block 251	81-240	24.76
Arthur M. Lobdell, Lots 17, 18, 19, Block 251	81-513	12.90
H. T. Fletcher, Lots 30 and 31, Block 278	87-500	6.04
Frank Ritter, Lots 6 to 9, Block 54	87-500	7.30
William R. Morse, Lots 5 and 6, Block 120	85-12	10.39
Lila Owen, Lots 4, 5, 6, Block 104	85-12	11.11
Edward R. Walker, Lot 6, Block 189	85-12	10.25
James A. McAuley, Lots 1 to 5, Block 173	81-378	13.54
H. Muller, Jr., Lots 5, 6, 9 to 12, Block 167; 5 to 23, Block 98	81-376	15.79
Eva Muller, Lots 5 to 14, Block 168	81-380	18.18
Martha Marcelaine, Lot 14, Block 151	81-515	12.63
J. C. Moore, Lots 14 to 17, Block 185	81-535	13.00
Patrick O'Reilly, Lots 17, 18, 19, Block 130	81-546	12.90
Frederick S. Pearson, Block 242	81-551	17.67
Sarah L. Pollard, Lots 3 and 4, Block 232	81-553	12.79
L. G. Prescott, Lot 9, Block 189	84-153	9.72
Arthur C. Sadler, Lots 13 and 14, Block 134	84-153	9.85
Henry B. Quimby, Lots 11 to 20, Block 152	81-560	12.60
Francis Rowe, Lots 17 to 20, 29 to 32, Block 277	84-160	13.77
A. P. Reed, Lot 10, Block 173	81-564	12.63
Lewis S. Reynal, Lots 15, 16, 27, 28, Block 303	81-566	13.00
James W. Riches, Lots 1 and 2, Block 13	81-568	12.79
Frank Robinson, Lots 10 and 11, Block 6	81-570	12.79
Frederick W. Rowe, Lots 13 to 23, Block 262; 1 to 4, 34 to 38, Block 280	81-254	32.74
Edward W. Harrington, Blocks 196 and 197	87-506	9.50
Anna L. Berry, Lots 1 to 14, 33 to 38, Block 603	87-506	9.50
Daniel C. Tirrell, Lots 25 and 26, Block 96	84-158	10.35
Mary L. Strong, Lots 15 to 34, Block 168	81-396	15.42
Nora A. Smith, Lots 1 to 4, 29 to 34, Block 381	81-256	21.14
Georg R. Stimson, Blocks 34, 35, 37, 38, 48, 50, 53, Sec. 1	81-258	37.59
Lipman Seldner, Lots 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, Block 278	81-573	13.40
J. H. Nelson, Lots 25, 26, 27, Block 278	81-539	12.90
Henry C. Buck, Lots 14, 15, 32, 37, 38, Block 278	81-410	13.16
E. J. Morrill, Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 278	84-155	9.90
Silo Artificial Stone Co., Lot 9, Block 286	81-575	12.63
Harry W. Smith, Lots 27 to 30, Block 267	81-579	13.00
Charlotte L. Smith, Lots 22, 23, 24, Block 251	82-83	12.79
Caleb G. Sprague, Lots 28, 29, 30, Block 18	82-85	12.79
George S. Stevens, Lot 7, Block 251	82-88	12.63
Charles R. Tice, Lots 16 to 23, Block 610	82-106	13.50
Abbie E. Webster, Lots 25 to 28, Block 27	82-111	13.00
Edgar Williams, Block 304, Lots 15 to 28; Block 379	82-119	19.29
James E. Williams, Lots 6 to 11, Block 317	82-127	13.28
Sarah J. Wiseman, Lots 21 to 24, Block 277	82-129	13.00
Patrick J. Whelan, Lots 6 to 16, 31 to 33, Block 298; 30 to 36, Block 503	82-121	15.15
Frank W. Swartwout, Lots 5 to 9, Block 280; 25 and 36, Block 298	87-506	9.60
Herbert Appleton, Lots 1 to 14, Block 295	81-326	14.64
Mary F. Brown, Block 244	87-508	11.50
George Emerick, Lots 3 to 8, Block 601; 19 to 32, Block 603	87-508	16.72
Edward E. Bruen, Lots 25 to 29, Block 268	81-412	13.16
Nathaniel H. Currier, Lots 7 and 8, Block 130	81-447	12.79
Charles H. Coombs, Lots 3 and 4, Block 130	84-155	9.56
James S. Dean, Lots 23 and 24, Block 54	84-155	9.56
George F. Fales, Lot 5, Block 54	84-155	9.15
Richard Curd Daniel, Blocks 319 and 321	86-221	27.25
James F. Finneran, Lot 16, Block 130; 13, Block 54	81-470	12.79
Thomas Thompson, Lots 9 and 10, Block 130	84-158	10.14
Luke Horstman, Lots 11 to 15, 34 to 38, Block 20 to 23, Block 268	81-355	14.96

John C. Kane, Lot 15, Block 130; 14 to 17, Block 54	81-504	13.16
James W. Nickerson, Lots 18 and 19, Block 54	81-542	12.90
Jacqueline Peck, Block 505, Lots 16 to 31, Block 602	81-387	19.68
Joseph Parker, Lots 1 to 3, Block 104	81-548	12.90
Frank M. Sharp, Lot 11, Block 54	84-158	9.90
Frank J. Baldwin, Block 250	81-333	17.92
William G. Chittick, Lots 1 to 5 and 10, Block 318; 1 to 4 and 29 to 34, Block 380; 20 to 27, Block 604	81-223	26.33
Hannah M. Clark, Lots 1 to 9, Block 270 and Block 288	81-342	18.91
R. D. Comstock, Blocks 810, 811, 812	83-343	23.66
Frank H. Gorman, Lot 20, Block 251	81-486	12.63

Howard National Bank, Lots 3 to 20, Block 190; 6 to 10, Block 200; 8, Block 210; 1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 14, 24 to 27, Block 222; 5 to 8, Block 234	87-498	11.38
Albert K. McMurray, Blocks 804, 805, 806, 807, 808	86-228	46.92
Ailan G. McDonald, Lots 4 to 8, Block 607	87-500	7.65
Fergus O'Connor, Lots 1 to 9, and 34, Block 258	81-383	14.15
Charles L. Oliver, Lots 5, 11, 12, 13, 16, Block 151	81-385	13.68
Adelaide L. Cockran, Lots 17 and 18, Block 151	81-341	12.79
Nathaniel A. Reed, Blocks 801, 901, 902, Lots 1 to 18, 25 to 37, Block 904; Lots 20 to 36, Block 802	81-249	38.00
F. Sternberg, Lots 9 to 11, Block 500; 37, Block 503	82-92	13.39
Mark Tempest, Lots 20 to 24, Block 130	82-104	13.16
Albert F. Stone, Lots 1 to 4, 29 to 34, Block 303	82-94	13.90
Henry M. Strong, Lot 12, Block 54	82-96	12.63
Henry Witzig, Lots 1 and 2, Block 54	82-113	12.79
Egbert C. Simonson, Block 150; Lots 5 to 39, Block 155	82-499	31.12
Abbie A. Wood, 4 Lots, 5,000 feet each, Block 173	82-134	13.00
Frederick S. Hopkins, Lots 1 to 5, 16 to 20, Block 154; 1 to 8, Block 260	81-232	42.05
Hannah M. McClare, Block 160, Lots 6 to 15, Block 154	81-522	19.04
Walter C. Robinson, Lots 24 to 38, Block 609	81-392	16.22
James M. Smith, Lots 36 to 38, Block 709; Blocks 710, 909, 913 (contains but 1 lot), Lots 26 to 90, Block 914. (See deed from Kearns to Smith, vol. 78, p. 293)	81-394	30.00
American DeForest Wireless Telegraph Co., Lots 1 to 5, Sec. 1, and Lots 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, forming a triangle fronting on the ocean and nearly adjoining Miacomet pond	87-498	10.56
Florence L. Vick, 11 acres, bounded north by Weweeder Ave., east by lands formerly of Mary G. Mowry and Joseph S. Barney	81-260	95.26
Edward L. Rand, Trustee, 314 acres adjoining Southeast Quarter. (See Proprietors' Records, book 6, p. 85-87)	81-251	242.12
Benjamin S. Cook, Lots 79 to 83, Block 49	81-440	13.16
Ida J. Collins, Lots 84 to 88, Block 49	86-223	12.84
Flora Hardwick, Lots 94 and 95, Block 49	84-155	9.85
John B. Clough, Lots 97 to 99, Block 49	81-433	12.90

Fell In.

For some time past it has been apparent to those conversant with the locality that the Surfside Hotel building has been in an unstable condition, having been severely warped and strained by the heavy winter gales of the past three years. Some time early Monday morning the eastern part of the structure collapsed, the roof and two upper stories falling, although the weather conditions at the time were entirely calm. Today the building has the appearance of having encountered a typhoon, and is surely a lonesome spectacle. The building was brought here from Riverside, R. I., and rebuilt on its present site by the original Surfside Land Co., and was the best appointed hostelry on the island. It has been run with varying success since its erection here at intervals, but for the last two or three seasons has not been open. Its ownership has several times changed, and at the present time belongs to New York parties. In its present condition it is open to the ravages of easterly storms and is very unsafe.

Correspondence of the Inquirer and Mirror.

Mr. Editor:

Will you allow me a short space in your paper to say a few words about The Surf-side. I occupied a front room overlooking the beautiful, broad Atlantic, with its ever ceaseless roar of old ocean, "where the breakers struggle left and right, and silently sink again into the sea, and the next vast breaker curls its edge, gathering itself for a mightier leap" (as Mr. Lowell says), has a perfect fascination for every one.

Now for the hotel proper. Everything is conducted with such exquisite taste and order, and neatness prevails to such an extent, that I think only a person of a morbid temperament could find any fault. The table is excellent, the servants good-natured and faithful, and the manager, Mr. Spooner, a genial prince of a landlord, who, together with his pleasant, amiable wife, and the obliging clerk, do all in their power to make the hotel a success. Long may it prosper, and may its shadow never be less.

A. M. C.

Dec. 2, 1899

FROM RIVERSIDE TO SURF-SIDE.



ORIGINAL DESIGN OF THE RIVERSIDE HOTEL, RIVERSIDE, R. I.

The large structure now being erected at Surf-side by the trustees of Surf-side lands, which will be known as the Surf-side Hotel, is being rapidly completed, and is in such an advanced stage of progress that we can give our readers some idea of its interior arrangement and appearance.

The building was erected at Riverside, R. I., on Providence river, some years since, as a hotel, from designs furnished by Walker & Co., of Providence, R. I., the original plan being as shown in the cut above, but the wings were never built. It proved an unfortunate investment for the builders, and after several poor seasons was in August last sold to the proprietors of the Surf-side lands, to be removed to Nantucket. The contract for taking it down was awarded to George B. Paddock & Co., of Providence, R. I., who began operations late in October, and on November 9, 1882, the first cargo was loaded for this place. Upon its arrival at Commercial wharf, it was discharged under the superintendence of Mr. Charles F. Coffin, and stored upon the wharf, and after the cold season had nearly passed, was transported by rail to its present site, the cellar and foundation having in the meantime been completed. A confused mass of wood, brick and stone it lay upon the bluff, from which it seemed impossible to the unacquainted to gather and properly place the mating pieces; but under the skilful hands of Mr. John S. D'Arcy, of Boston, the contractor, order has come out of chaos, the

Nobadeer pond, commanding a charming view of the entire southern shore of the island, as well as a pleasant land prospect.

The Surf-side Hotel building is 125x40 feet, with a broad, covered piazza on the front and sides ten feet in width. It is four stories in height, exclusive of the basement, and contains about seventy rooms. The basement, which will be neatly finished, will be devoted to billiard and store rooms, the former to occupy the east end, with a floor space 40x50 feet. The first floor is occupied by the dining hall, a spacious and cheerful apartment located at the right of the main entrance, which is 40x50 feet. At the rear of the main hall, which is 23.9x24.6, is located the office, at the left of which the main stair case ascends, coat and baggage rooms being connected with the office. On the front of the building at the left of the main entrance are located two private supper rooms, each 12x15 feet, opposite them being double parlors of the same size. The main parlor is at the west end of the building, occupying a floor space of 25x40 feet, and is accessible by a corridor leading from the main hall.

SECOND FLOOR.

On the second floor are located eighteen lodging rooms, each 12x14.6 feet, which are airy apartments, leading off from each side of the corridor extending the length of the building. At the left of the staircase are located the linen room, the toilet rooms, and maid's closet, the latter being supplied

with water from an immense tank located in the attic. The sanitary arrangements have been carefully looked after, the sewage being received by a huge cess pool well removed from the building.

THE KITCHEN. About twenty-five feet in the rear of the hotel the kitchen is now building. This will be a structure 30x40 feet, two stories and basement, and will connect directly with the dining room by a passage 25x12 feet. In the basement will be located the laundry. The first floor will be used as the kitchen, where a Whiteley range, broilers, bakers, etc., of the most approved character will be used in the culinary work. Large pantry and dish closets are situated on the south side of this room. Everything in this department will be arranged for the most rapid preparation of food. The upper floor is to be devoted to sleeping apartments for the servants of the house. Water will be supplied the entire house by a steam pump, and arrangements are being completed for heating the house by steam for the comfort of such guests as may remain late in the season.

THE FURNISHINGS

of the house which are arriving daily, will be in excellent taste, the lodging rooms to be furnished with ash sets of the Eastlake pattern, and the parlors in ebony, upholstered in plush and silk. Just as soon as the rooms are completed the furniture will be set up.

THE PROPRIETOR,

Mr. Charles H. Moore, of the Maverick House, East Boston, is a gentleman born and bred to hotel business. He is a native of New Hampshire, and is well known to the traveling public as a man of genial nature, who makes friends wherever his steps



THE NEW SURF-SIDE HOTEL.

great building has slowly reared itself to the roof, and the interior finish is progressing most satisfactorily. Mr. D'Arcy took hold of the work early in February, the first fortnight being devoted to arranging the material for the most rapid handling, and on March 4 carpenters commenced the work of rebuilding, and though favored with the most deplorable spring weather experienced here for years, have improved every favorable opportunity, and the owners have reason to feel encouragement for its completion at an early date. The hotel is the exact counterpart of the building which stood at Riverside, and its exterior appearance is well defined in the accompanying cut, and is most desirably located a short distance west of

with water from an immense tank located in the attic. The sanitary arrangements have been carefully looked after, the sewage being received by a huge cess pool well removed from the building.

THE THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS are exact counterparts of the second, except a slight deviation in point of architectural design along the corridors, the number and size being in every respect the same. Electric bells connecting each room with the office, are to be supplied, and the house will also be lighted with gas manufactured on the premises, the gasometer to be remotely located.

THE KITCHEN.

About twenty-five feet in the rear of the

fall. There is room enough for all, and Mr. Moore will be accorded a warm welcome among us. He will be here next week to superintend the preparation of the house. The joiner work is in the hands of John S. D'Arcy, of Boston; plumbing, Codd & Deacon, Nantucket; steam heating and piping, Walworth, Mfg. Co., Boston; foundation work, J. S. Appleton, Jr.; plastering, Brown & Ring; roofing, H. S. Valentine; painting, H. Paddock & Co.

As announced last week a gala opening of the house will occur July 4, when our people will have an opportunity of inspecting this complete hostelry—the SURF-SIDE HOTEL.

July 16, 1883

Surf-side Leads the Van.

Three Cheers for the New Hotel!—Recent Changes—Notes.

We hinted in a recent issue that the project of a new hotel was in the hands of parties who meant business. Our heading above indicates how it has culminated, and the details are as follows: The Surf-side Company have purchased the wooden hotel recently built at Riverside, Providence River, and it will be taken down immediately, brought here and re-built at Surf-side, on block 231. It is four stories in height, having a length of 120 feet, and a width of 50 feet, containing sixty sleeping rooms above the parlor and dining room floor,—dining room 40x50 feet. Two other buildings are included in the purchase, one 30x40 feet and 2 1-2 stories in height; the other 20x30, single story. Both of these will be re-built and used in connection with the hotel. Eight hundred feet of handsome fence, costing near three dollars per foot, have enclosed the property, and the same fence will be used to surround its new site. The Surf-side Company will have the hotel and adjacent buildings all completed and in readiness for the opening season of 1883.

Now that the hotel at Surf-side is assured, let us not relax our efforts for further accommodations in town. The season now passing away has demonstrated the very pressing necessity for such a move, and the project must not be allowed to rest another day. Apropos of this we hear various rumors on the street of intended additions to some of the present hotels, and we are not without hope that even a new hotel may be started in time for next year's business.

The lots are selling slowly, now that the strangers are leaving us, and yet we can add since our report of the 12th the following: C. H. Moore of New Marlboro' Hotel, Boston, one lot in block 225; Alanson Cary of New York, three lots in block 220; Capt. Rowland F. Coffin, Brooklyn, N. Y., four lots in block, 218; R. N. Flagg, M. D., Yonkers, N. Y., four lots in block 205; C. F. Babcock, Boston, three lots in block 185. The aggregate sales of lots to present date, two hundred twenty-five.

Sept. 16, 1882

Mr. George Paddock of Providence, formerly of this town, has contracted to take down the Surf-side Company's hotel at Riverside, and expects to commence on Monday with the work. It is possible he will contract to erect it on its new site. The building will not be taken down in sections, but will have to be completely razed. Mr. Paddock thinks that in four weeks, with good weather, he can have the stuff in Nantucket.

SALE OF PROPERTY.—The land and hotel known as the Surf-side Hotel property, situated at Surf-side, were sold by auction last Tuesday on foreclosure, by G. E. Mooers. But one bid was offered, that being by Mr. Arthur W. Tufts, of Boston, the mortgagee, who purchased the property in the name of M. McLoud, of Boston, for the small sum of \$2000. Whatever the purchaser's intentions are, he quietly withholds them from the public.

Nov. 5, 1882

THE SURFSIDE BOOM.

Last Saturday parties representing the syndicate which recently purchased the Surfside property came down on the Island Home, and the next morning drove over and viewed their recent purchase. They claim that the hotel will be fitted up at once, in readiness to be opened to the public the coming season, and have engaged Mr. J. S. Appleton, jr., who is plowing up and grading the grounds and streets of the Surfside section.

The party were obliged to be in New York on Monday, and before leaving New Bedford, chartered tug Nellie to come for them. It appears they arrived too late for the train, but took carriages for Fall River in time to connect with the boat. The *Mercury* of Monday tells this story of the party:

Tug Nellie of this port left early yesterday morning for Nantucket to bring to this port a party of New York and New Jersey gentlemen who were desirous of taking the train to Fall River to catch the New York boat. The party consisted of Daniel McKeever of Orange, N. J., Robert Appleton, jr., of Orange, F. C. O'Reilly of Orange, James A. Roche of Detroit, Mich., John Firth of Orange, W. H. Peddle of Roselle, N. J., Thomas H. Spaulding of New York, and George O'Reilly of Orange.

The gentlemen arrived in the city on the 11.20 train Saturday and took the regular boat for Nantucket, having made arrangements to have the tug Nellie get them yesterday. A man who works on the docks saw one of the party talking with Col. S. C. Hart, and insisted that it was John L. Sullivan, the pugilistic champion. The rumor soon spread and yesterday quite a little interest was taken in the matter and many were the conjectures made as to why the champion should go to Nantucket. The story being repeated so often, it was finally stated as a positive fact that Sullivan was coming here on the Nellie, and about 5 o'clock a large crowd began to gather about Propeller wharf, anxiously awaiting the Nellie's arrival. Various expressions were heard about the man of great science, and it was finally settled that John L. had been on a fishing trip.

Shortly after 6 o'clock the Nellie's smoke was seen below Palmer's Island and she was soon up to the dock. The crowd rushed to the edge of the wharf to see if John was actually aboard. Imagine the surprise of the gentlemen to see this demonstration. It didn't take them long to find that something was in the wind.

"Say, which one is Sullivan?" inquired a sport of his next neighbor.

Other inquiries were made and the party on the tug began to tumble as to what was up. One gentleman on board the Nellie turned to a large, tall and broad-shouldered man, with a moustache of the Sullivan cut, and said: "Sullivan, shall we go to Fall River by train or carriage?" Others of the party addressed the man as John, which fairly sent the crowd wild with delight, much to the embarrassment of the victim. Some one proposed three cheers for Sullivan, which were given with a will. Broad smiles spread over the countenances of the whole party on board the Nellie as they prepared to disembark. As the supposed John L. walked from the Nellie to a hack he was completely surrounded by the crowd of admirers. By the time that the party had embarked in the hack and started for Fall River many had learned that they had been nicely fooled, and quietly kicking themselves, sneaked off, while many honestly believed they had seen the great John L.

The party of New Yorkers, who own a large part of the south shore of Nantucket, will have a good story to tell their friends when they get home.

Apr. 19, 1890

RECONSIDERED.—The Surfside syndicate have reconsidered their decision of last week, and have made a contract with the Nantucket Electric Light Company to light the Surfside Hotel at once with one hundred incandescent lights. They will also put from four to eight arc lights along the line of the one hundred foot boulevards, which will connect with the Atlantic avenue road. Work is already begun on this driveway, and it is hoped to have a mile finished up this season. The grading is being done at the section near the hotel.

1890

AUCTION SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—The entire property of the Surfside Company, comprising about nine hundred acres, was sold at auction last Wednesday by G. E. Mooers for \$2.80 per acre. Mr. Jacob W. McCrallis, of Denver, Col., was the purchaser. There were but few persons present at the sale, and but two or three bidders.

Sept. 3, 1887

Mr. George Paddock of Providence, formerly of this town, has contracted to take down the Surf-side Company's hotel at Riverside, and expects to commence on Monday with the work. It is possible he will contract to erect it on its new site. The building will not be taken down in sections, but will have to be completely razed. Mr. Paddock thinks that in four weeks, with good weather, he can have the stuff in Nantucket.

1882

THE NEW HOTEL.—Schooner Favorite arrived here Thursday with a lot of the material belonging to the hotel to be erected at Surf-side. When she left Riverside, she had on deck, between the fore and main-masts, a house 30x16 feet in size. It took about all the room in the waist of the vessel, the jet projecting four or five feet over either rail. The fore-boom was topped up to swing clear of the structure. While lying at anchor in Vineyard Haven, during the recent northeaster, the vessel lurched so badly as to throw the structure over, nearly demolishing it. Some of it was saved, but it is thought will be of little avail. The structure was intended for a band stand in front of the hotel. Schooner J. D. Griffin, with stone, brick, etc., for the building, arrived here on Tuesday. It is thought there is material enough left to freight four more vessels, three cargoes having already arrived.

Dec. 2, 1882

SEASHORE LOTS, \$10 to \$50.

For Maps, Circulars, &c., apply to

**NANTUCKET
SURFSIDE
LAND CO.,**

46 SCHOOL STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

OR

**ALMON T. MOWRY, Agent,
NANTUCKET.**

my25—6m

1889

THE SURFSIDE BOOM.

Last Saturday parties representing the syndicate which recently purchased the Surfside property came down on the Island Home, and the next morning drove over and viewed their recent purchase. They claim that the hotel will be fitted up at once, in readiness to be opened to the public the coming season, and have engaged Mr. J. S. Appleton, jr., who is plowing up and grading the grounds and streets of the Surfside section.

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SURF-SIDE BONDS.

THESE Bonds were issued July 1st, 1882, payable 20 years from that date. They draw 6 per cent. interest, payable semi-annually, and are secured by a First Mortgage on the entire Surf-side property. For the future development of the property a limited number will be sold at a price that will make them a very desirable investment. Correspondence solicited. aug11

ALMON T. MOWRY, Agent.

Aug. 18, 1883

For Sale

—AT—

SURF-SIDE, SURF-SIDE HOUSE LOTS, SURF-SIDE BONDS.

CHARLES F. COFFIN, Treas.

SURF-SIDE, - NANTUCKET.

mh10—

1884
COMPLIMENTARY HOP.—Surf-side Hotel enjoyed a hop on Tuesday evening, which was attended by a large number of visitors of Nantucket who went down in the 8 o'clock train, and were welcomed by Miss Florence Coffin, the Misses Van Wyck and the genial host, Mr. Moore. Before the ball room was opened, Mr. E. B. Hay, of Washington, entertained the guests with reading, and when the orchestra started, he led off in one of the most rollicking sets of centennial lancers the Surf-side of any watering place ever delighted in. The merry laugh of the dancers and the sound of "Now all together," could not be drowned by the roar of the rolling waves dancing upon the shore. The young people mingled well, and pleasure for the time being was unbridled, being driven to its full height by good music, fair ladies and gallant gentlemen. Among the company were the Misses Van Wyck, of New York, Miss Florence Coffin, of Boston, Miss Williams, of Washington, Misses McClintock and Fuller, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., Misses Maud and Mabel James, of North Hampton, Mass., Mrs. Marsh, Miss White, Mr. White, Gen. Lord, of Albany, Mrs. Lord, Mr. Abbott, Mrs. Marian Butler, of Washington, Lieut. Bradford, Robert R. Shellenbarger, W. Bradley Davidson, Mr. Harry K. Willard, Mr. E. B. Hay, of Washington, Miss Hawes, Miss Haskins and Miss Maggie Soule, of New Bedford.

1883
THE SURF-SIDE HOTEL.—The cellar for the new hotel at Surf-side has been laid out, its dimensions being 40x125 feet. The hotel building will set back one hundred feet from the front line of the lots, and will have a spacious veranda. On the open ground in front of the hotel is to be erected a handsome band stand. The company will do their best to get the building freighted here before the boisterous season sets in.

Sold for Taxes.

At the Tax Collector's sale of real estate for delinquent taxes last week there were few bidders present although the property was very valuable. The Surf-side hotel together with 686 Surfside lots, the property of W. H. Gwynne of Cohoes, N. Y., valued at \$25,000, was put up without a bid being obtained. The depot at Nantucket of the Nantucket Railroad, valued at \$600 was knocked down to L. F. Buchanan for \$87, while the Siasconset depot was bought by George F. Coffin for \$35. 662 2-5 acres of Surf-side land belonging to W. H. Gwynne was sold to Francis Doane for \$65 and the dwelling and 1-8 acre of land at Wauwinet belonging to Jane V. Warren was purchased by Ellen E. Thomas for \$40. The land belonging to the heirs of Charles Godfrey near York street was purchased by Elizabeth C. Sylvia for \$19, and the land of Henry W. Richardson at the Cliff was knocked down to George F. Coffin for \$28. The property of the Nantucket Railroad Co. on the South Beach (the old brass foundry) was bought by A. M. Myrick for \$35.

On Tuesday the remainder of the advertised property was offered at public auction. The Surfside hotel was bid off for the town by the Collector for \$140 but as the amount was not equal to taxes and expenses, the purchase is necessarily declared "off." L. F. Buchanan bid off Henry W. Richardson's two lots at Coatsue for \$10 and 648 Surfside lots for \$90.

1894
REAL ESTATE.—The sale of the Surfside property, which was consummated late last week, is the transaction hinted at in our last issue. It appears that three parties were seeking to purchase it, one being an English syndicate, but a New York syndicate, represented by Mr. Robert Appleton, jr., secured the property, including the hotel and about nine hundred acres of land. What the purpose of the new purchasers is has not yet been stated. The sale clearly evinces, however, that outsiders are looking Nantucketward for real estate purchases, and every transfer means a better business outlook.

1890
RECONSIDERED.—The Surfside syndicate have reconsidered their decision of last week, and have made a contract with the Nantucket Electric Light Company to light the Surfside Hotel at once with one hundred incandescent lights. They will also put from four to eight arc lights along the line of the one hundred foot boulevard, which will connect with the Atlantic avenue road. Work is already begun on this driveway, and it is hoped to have a mile finished up this season. The grading is being done at the section near the hotel.

THE NANTUCKET BOOM.

Mr. Editor:

If any person doubts the real earnestness of the parties who have purchased the Surfside, Coatsue and Coskata properties, and their determination to make it a success, I think they would be convinced if they had seen what I observed today.

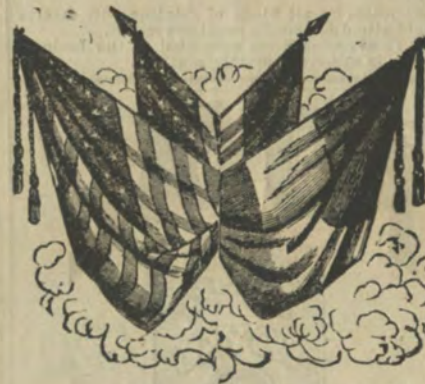
Passing through the rotunda of the Equitable Building—the most magnificent edifice in New York City for offices of leading corporations and professional men—they would see in a prominent position on the first floor the office of the projectors of the new enterprise on the island, with two or three gentlemen in attendance. Prominently displayed is a large map of Nantucket, a view of the Surfside Hotel and other points, and documents are issued explaining the advantages of the island and their projected improvements. I had not met either of the gentlemen before, and introduced myself. The conversation I had satisfied me that they would bring their enterprise prominently before the people of this city and vicinity who seek residences on the seashore, and that, within a short time, they will add to the value of the island and to the prosperity of its inhabitants.

E. F. U.

NEW YORK, May 21, 1890.

1890

FOURTH OF JULY! Surf-side Attractions!



Grand Gala Day for Nantucket!

EXTRA TRAINS WILL BE RUN!

PROGRAMME:

THE DINNER will be served in the Depot Building at about 12 o'clock, under the direction of Mr. Patterson, of the Bay View House, and will comprise all the substantial of a first-class dinner, and will be afforded at the very moderate price of fifty cents.

Literary Exercises.

After the dinner, and at about 2 o'clock, P. M., the patriotic exercises will commence, consisting of the following:

1. Star Spangled Banner, Glee Club.
2. Prayer, Rev. M. Ransom.
3. Ode, Glee Club.
4. Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Glee Club.
5. The Red, White and Blue, Glee Club.
6. Oration, Rev. J. A. Savage.
7. Ode, Glee Club.
8. Original Poem, Dr. Arthur E. Jenks.
9. America, Congregation.

Other short addresses may be expected.

Balloon Ascensions.

During the day and evening numerous fire-balloons will be sent up, some of which will contain appropriate sentiments.

Brilliant Display of Fireworks.

In the evening, a skillful and accomplished pyrotechnist from Boston, will send off some of the modern novel wonders in this domain of science.

The Grand Ball!

There will be a grand ball given in the Depot Building, commencing immediately after the display of fireworks. Messrs. R. B. Hussey, Alexander M. Myrick and Walter H. Burgess will act as floor directors.

Every arrangement has been perfected for a grand gala day at Surf-side, in commemoration of the nation's birthday, as also the anniversary of the opening of the railroad, when the first train of cars was run.

1882

NANTUCKET "SURF-SIDE."

A New Watering-Place.

The green and breezy plateau, lying on the South Shore of our island and stretching between the Miacomet and the Mad-dequecham Ponds, has been purchased by a company, with the intention of making it the site of a Watering-Place.

No finer location for a large hotel and private cottages could have been selected. The tract has an ocean frontage of three miles; along which the breakers of the Atlantic lift their ceaseless music. The edge of the plateau, sea-wards, is a low cliff, affording at once a superb view of the billows and surf, and an easy descent to the sandy beach for bathers. The beach itself is broad enough to furnish ample accommodations in the way of bath-houses, etc., and the whole spot is sufficiently near the town to be easily accessible, and yet, quite remote enough to furnish a desirable seclusion for the summer colony who may seek its invigorating influences.

On Tuesday last a party of gentlemen from New York, Boston and elsewhere, arrived here, with a view, before engaging at all in the undertaking, of studying our island a little, and especially of examining the location of "Surf-Side." On their arrival, conveyances were at once taken for the South Shore. But the afternoon was very foggy, and little progress was made in their work. On Wednesday, however, the day was superb. The carriages that were to take the party rendezvoused at the Ocean House, and at 9 A. M. all started away for a tour of the island. We noticed among the party that were to celebrate the occasion, Messrs. Blackwell and Utley, the well known real-estate men of New York, Mr. Ives of Geneva, Messrs. Cottrell and Marshall and Mr. Charles F. Coffin of Boston, and Mr. Beadle of the Meridian Manufacturing Company. Messrs. Charles G. and Henry Coffin, Mr. George Wendell Macy, and Mr. Alfred Swain of our town were also of the company. The whole party drove first out by the Pout Pond Road to Saul's Hills. Here they went to the summit of Macy's Hill, where a grand view of nearly the entire island was enjoyed. With a map laid upon the ground, the resident islanders of the party designated and pointed out to the strangers the different objects of interest that were in sight. The breeze was gentle and refreshing, and the atmosphere so clear that Monomoy and the Cape could be distinctly seen from the elevation. After all had enjoyed the scene to their hearts' content, the long row of carriages took up its way to Sankoty Head. Here the famous light-house was visited; the name of the guests were registered in the light-keeper's book, and a few shells and other sea curiosities were procured. The next place visited was our quaint old village of Siasconset with its little houses, and our new village yecept "Sunset Heights" with its picturesque seaside villas. The projectors of this latter village have exercised both excellent judgment and excellent taste in the size and style of buildings they have erected; which are at once pretty, inexpensive and inviting as places for a few weeks, residence in the summer. While small, they yet contain every convenience one would wish. Each comprises a parlor, a dining room, a bed-room and a kitchen, all of sufficiently ample size, on the lower floor, and several bed-rooms with closets up stairs. Such we understand is to be the style also of the cottages to be erected at "Surf-Side." The whole party then crossed Low-Beach, dashed up Tom-Never's Head, and skirted the entire cliff-edge for four miles from Tom-Never's to "Surf-Side," with the glorious breakers at their left bursting into snow-white bloom, ceaselessly bowing to the party as it passed, and tossing their surf in graceful sweeps high up towards the bank. A spot about mid-way between Mad-dequecham and Nobadeer Ponds was the objective point of the party; and care had been taken to make it hospitable and showy for their reception and rest after their long drive.

About fifty feet from the edge of the bank a spacious tent had been pitched, stations for the vehicles had been constructed, the Humane House, standing there, had been utilized as a kitchen, a shed had been erected, and over this entire group of straggling shelters, many gay flags of different nationalities had been flung to the breeze. Indeed there has been no such

festal spot on the island since the days of the last "Alumni." A large number of residents and citizens had already assembled there from town to meet and join the guests, so that the place was not only gay but populous and merry. Among those who had gathered in anticipation of the arrival of the party, we notice Professor Morse, Professor Foster, of the Brooklyn Polytechnic School, the Rev. Dr. Meade, Rector of St. Paul's, Dr. A. E. Jenks, and Mr. Charles H. Starbuck. Up to this lively locality the party of guests, full of life and with appetites keenly whetted by their long tour and by the fresh sea-gales through which they had been dashing, drove at a spanking pace, reined in their horses, and descended for rest and dinner.

Two long tables had been spread beneath the tent. A huge steaming clam-bake was doing its hot and silent work outside. The tables, with their glass, their fruits and flowers were a delight to the eye, and the cuisine proved to be superb.

At the request of Mr. Charles F. Coffin, who represented the "Surf-Side" Company, and who had engineered the whole affair, the Rev. Dr. Ewer, of New York, undertook the task of presiding at the board. Grace was said by the Rev. Dr. Meade, and then began the brisk conversation and the clatter of the knives and forks. The first course was chowder—and the Nantucket chowders have no peer. Next came a course of baked clams with *entremets*, and then followed, in course after course, a display of the "many fishes of the sea," and also of the lakes. For the managers of the affair had aimed at showing their guests the wonderful and toothsome variety of piscatory viands which this gifted and pregnant island could produce. Pastry came next; then dessert of fruits and ice-cream, and last of all coffee and cigars. The dinner did credit to the caterer, Mr. Thurston, of the Ocean View House, Siasconset. When the superb "feast" was over, the "flow of soul" began.

The Rev. Dr. Ewer, rapping on the table and calling all to order, rose and said that

He was as surprised, as doubtless others around him were, at finding this an occasion of no little pretension. He supposed he was coming to a simple clam-bake, and had no idea that there was to be the formality of a festal dinner with toasts and speeches. Just before we sat down, to his surprise he had been called upon by his friend Mr.

C. F. Coffin to preside and open the ball after dinner. He knew of no more difficult intellectual feat than to rise and make a speech of any kind, after-dinner or otherwise, when one hadn't a single thing to say. However we were all "in the same boat," as others would doubtless discover when he should proceed, as he shortly would, to call them up. He had asked himself as he had been sitting there how he was going to get along, what the toasts should be, and, moreover, as he discovered that he was at a tea-total board, where the traditional basis for any toasts was to be found? He was reminded of a story of the Rev. Dr. Bethune of New York. The Dr. was once at a New England dinner given on Forefathers' day by men of New England origin resident in New York. It was a complete dinner in every respect except that there was no beverage on the board otherwise than water. The Rev. Doctor was evidently one of those persons who, though entirely temperate, by no means despised the good gift of wine, which the Scriptures say "maketh glad the heart of man." Looking round upon his N. E. friends who now lived in New York, Dr. B. said that he had heard a great deal during the evening in laudation of New England, and Plymouth Rock, etc.; that he unfortunately had not had the extreme advantage of being born and raised in New England; he, on the other hand, had had the misfortune, being a Knickerbocker, of having been born and reared in that city to which everybody came, and from which nobody ever went away. He said he knew New England was the school of the universe, and he was glad to sit at her feet as a learner. He had learned that evening as he had listened to the speakers, one thing; and that was that a dinner-table speech would be incomplete unless it contained among other things a couplet of poetry. He said as he gazed over the ample board he, too, was reminded of a couplet of lines by Coleridge; and they were:

"Water, water, everywhere,
And not a drop to drink."

Dr. Ewer then asked how it happened that we were all gathered just at this little spot by the sea. Here were miles and miles of coast stretching from Maine to Delaware with thousands of localities where houses could be built; and how happened it that the party before him had gathered just here, in anticipation of a rising Watering-Place, rather than on any other of the thousand localities.

"Gentlemen," continued he, "you cannot take a map and arbitrarily put your finger on a given spot, and say, I will, by advertising and other appliances, build a watering-place just there. You cannot make affairs bend to your wishes in this respect. You cannot make people go to any place you may choose. You have got to follow the indications given by human nature in its movements and by locality. The reasons why people center at one spot rather than another are occult. Washington predicted that Norfolk, lying at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay with large rivers flowing into it must, from the nature of things, be the metropolis of America. But no, New York for some reason or other gained the day. Why is it then that we are here? It is because we are not attempting arbitrarily to create a Watering-Place, but are simply following the lead of indications, and selecting that spot which will, of its own volition, be a Watering-Place whether we choose or not."

When he (the speaker) was young, nobody thought of coming to spend the summer at Nantucket. But in the last ten years, one and another, and another family of strangers, unsolicited and of their own accord, have come here for the summer; and when they returned home have reported about the quaint customs, and the glorious cool breezes, and the grand ocean, and the fishing, and the inspiring, invigorating air of Nantucket. And so, gradually from year to year, the tens of visitors have become hundreds, and the hundreds have become thousands, and no one has lifted a vigorous hand, by thorough advertising or otherwise, to bring this result about. Nantucket is already a watering place, and we meet here merely to provide fitting accommodations to the new order of things. But, gentlemen, some of you may think that these friends around us, have met here to form a "Ring" and pocket large proceeds by manipulating the sale of lots. Not a bit of it, gentlemen, not a bit of it. Look at Mr. Blackwell there, look at Mr. Coffin, at Mr. Ives, at Mr. Cottrell; did you ever see more open and honest faces. Gentlemen, you behold before you in them simply and solely a band of pure philanthropists: they are humanitarians. As they have thought over the sufferings of their poor fellow creatures, *paterfamilias* with his streaming brow and limp collar, sopping his poor head with a bandanna in the hot city, *materfamilias* fanning herself vigorously on the sofa at home, and Julia and Ellie languidly dawdling round in thin attire, the hearts of these men before you have bled for the sufferings of their brother-men, and the soles of the feet of these philanthropic individuals have bled and have not rested till they have found out a spot which shall be for the benefit of mankind. They are here before you without a thought of filthy lucre; simply sacrificing themselves and their time, and magnanimously spending their money for the good of their fellow-creatures.

Dr. Ewer then closed by telling a story about a New York youth who was breakfasting at his boarding house. As he was eating his hash he discovered in it the tooth of an old horn comb. He picked the tooth out and laid it by the side of his plate. Pretty soon he discovered a short piece of dirty twine; and then half of a soiled lead-pencil; and then a hair-pin. He laid them down by the side of his plate one after the other till he had accumulated quite a little pile of miscellaneous articles. He then called the landlady along: "Well, what is it, sir?" said she. "But I found these articles in my hash," said he. "Well, young man," replied the landlady, "at the price of board which you pay, do you expect to find a silk umbrella in your hash?"

The Doctor concluded by saying that notwithstanding their purely humanitarian aims, if there should happen to be any money made here, the melancholy result would have to be borne with such fortitude as each could muster. For himself he had no doubt that at the price any of them should pay for all these electric breakers with health in every bubble, and these sea breezes and glorious skies and cottage lots, they would each and every one of them find a silk umbrella in his hash. He proposed the health of all mankind and especially of his friend Cottrell over there.

Mr. Asa Cottrell then rose and said he was not at all accustomed to make dinner table speeches, but that one must be stupid indeed, who was not stirred to say something by this scene and its surroundings. He was familiar with most of the prominent sea-side resorts, and could confidently assert, that not one of them could equal in natural advantages the south side of the island of Nantucket. The surf, the shore, the bluff, the plateau fronting the ocean, were all very similar, and in most respects superior to Long Branch. Twenty years ago the land at the latter place, now selling at fabulous prices, was no more valuable and presented no more favorable conditions than the broad beautiful territory around us. The islands, sought for summer residence, are mostly so connected with the main land as to make it uncertain whether they are not peninsulars. But here we are literally at sea, surrounded by the refreshing invigorating airs of Ocean. The Isles of Shoals are beautiful and health-giving, but the means of recreation and other means of a summer resort are but imperfectly supplied. But here, although we are twenty-five miles from the continent, we have at hand churches of almost every sect, physics of both schools, and, it is suggested, are free from lawyers. It could be safely predicted that this day would open a new era in the history of Nantucket. The Fire King destroyed your stores and warehouses, the oil-wells interfered with your favorite traffic, the whales went back on you, but your beautiful island is destined to be converted into the great watering-place of the country. But little aid is needed from men to develop its striking and extraordinary advantages. He thanked Dr. Ewer for his kindly remarks about the unalloyed benevolence and unselfishness of the gentlemen engaged in the enterprise. Being a lawyer himself, however, he might possibly take a little less selfish view of the matter than his clerical friend. He hailed this demonstration as a happy omen; he looked to the sympathy of the citizens in this enterprise, and trusted and expected that it would result in common benefit to the island and to those who had formed the purpose of developing this spot.

Dr. Ewer then introduced Prof. Foster. Even though our limits would admit, it would be quite impossible to report the Professor's capital speech. It was sparkling, full of plays upon words and Latin puns.

After dinner the question of a name for the spot was fully discussed; and "Nantucket Surf-Side" was selected as the designation of the new watering-place.

The New York and Boston gentlemen, before their arrival, were in doubt as to whether some other spot on the island were not preferable. But after their thorough examination during this tour, doubts were all removed, and there was not a dissenting voice in regard to the place selected, but on the contrary all were enthusiastically in favor of this. The eventual existence of the new watering-place, "Nantucket Surf-Side," may be considered not merely as a possibility but as a certainty.

At half-past five o'clock the party left the camp amid the lowering of the gay flags and ensigns, drove to Weeweeder, witnessed some blue-fishing that was going on there, and then returned to their quarters in town.

They left by the boat on Thursday morning, delighted with their trip to Nantucket, and the hospitable manner in which they had been entertained by the Messrs. Coffin, Swain and Macy.

A Boom in Surf-side Lots.

The selling of lots at Surf-side is becoming quite a business, so much so that an office has been established on the grounds, and the Treasurer of the company, Mr. Charles F. Coffin, reports the following sales for the week ending yesterday:

Dr. Donald Kennedy, Roxbury, of Kennedy's Bitters notoriety, blocks 226 and 206, containing twelve lots each, the former fronting on Atlantic avenue and running back to Nonantum avenue, and the latter immediately in the rear, embracing the space from Nonantum avenue to Nobadeer avenue, and bounded on the east line by Madequecham street, and by Shimmo street on the west; Charles B. Swain, of this town, block 223, 16 lots, between Orange and Masquetuck streets, fronting Atlantic avenue; L. H. & W. M. Bacon, Boston, ten lots bordering on Atlantic avenue and Wannacommet street; Sarah J. Baker of Boston, two lots, Atlantic avenue and Shimmo street; Horace Cook, Boston, two lots, corner Masquetuck street, and Atlantic avenue; Isabelle A. Orr, of Needham, Mass., three lots, corner Atlantic avenue and Irving street; Walter C. Hunting, Boston, two lots, corner Atlantic avenue and Vernon street; J. H. Norton, Boston, six lots, Atlantic avenue and east corner of Irving street; Henry Coffin, Nantucket, nine lots, Atlantic avenue and east corner of Vernon street; Charles F. Coffin, Boston, six lots, Atlantic avenue and west corner of Waverly street; Judge Frederick G. Gedney, Surrogate's Court, New York city, block 235, twelve lots, bounded by Atlantic avenue in front, on west side by Waverly street, and by Adams street on east side; Mary H. Mowry, South Walpole, Mass., six lots in block 237, Atlantic avenue, four lots in block 209, rear of Nonantum avenue, and lots 64 and 65, Atlantic avenue and Hawthorne street,—a total of twelve lots; Charles L. Mowry, of Springfield, Mass., one lot in block 209, rear of Nonantum avenue; Jonathan Dorr, Boston, five lots in block 207, rear of Nonantum avenue; Almon T. Mowry, Nantucket, one lot in block 209, rear of Nonantum avenue; George W. Macy, Nantucket, five lots in block 210, rear of Nonantum avenue; — Babcock, Boston, four lots in block 220, corner Woodbine street; R. P. Stats, of New York city, has the refusal of six lots between Holly and Orange streets, fronting Atlantic avenue. The Surf-side Company have taken lots 12 and 13, Atlantic avenue and Cherry street, about 200 feet to the eastward of the present depot, upon which the first cottage will be erected immediately, by James H. Gibbs as builder, under specifications by Messrs. L. H. & W. M. Bacon, architects, Boston, 1 1-2 stories in height and containing eight rooms. Mr. Gibbs will also erect forthwith, a block of bath-houses, eight in number. An anchor and life-line were placed on Thursday afternoon.

The largest single purchase happens to be among our own people, and negotiations closed on last Thursday, to Joseph S. Barney, of this town, for three blocks, 227, 228 and 229, and having a frontage of rising six hundred feet on Atlantic avenue, and running back upwards of three hundred feet to Nonantum avenue, having Prospect street for the eastern bound, and Madequecham street for the western, containing twelve lots each, or a total of thirty-six lots. Only one block intervenes between Prospect street and the site selected for the new hotel.

The rumor is quite current here among the knowing ones, that the last-named purchase is in the interest of a company of capitalists, who desired to secure this spot for a mammoth hotel, on account of its central location; but Mr. Barney assures us that there is not a grain of truth in the report, as he has made the purchase solely on his own individual account. We make the aggregate of the above sales one hundred and sixty-four lots—a pretty good beginning for the first week, and especially so since many of the purchasers have signified their intention to erect cottages in time for the season of 1883.

So frequent mention has been made of Atlantic avenue, that perhaps we should have stated that the avenue runs along the entire ocean front, and to the north of the railroad track, having a uniform width of fifty feet. The railroad itself is laid out forty feet wide, and the space between this and the verge of the bank, say 100 to 150 feet, is left to allow for the inroad of the surf, should the tendency be to wash it away.

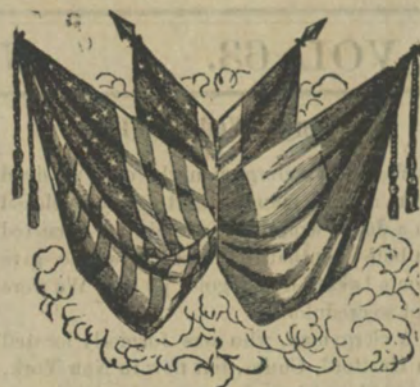
July 29, 1882

July 29, 1882

SPECIAL NOTICES.

FOURTH OF JULY!

Surf-side Attractions!



Grand Gala Day for Nantucket!

EXTRA TRAINS WILL BE RUN!

PROGRAMME:

THE DINNER will be served in the Depot Building at about 12 o'clock, under the direction of Mr. Patterson, of the Bay View House, and will comprise all the substantial of a first-class dinner, and will be afforded at the very moderate price of fifty cents.

Literary Exercises.

After the dinner, and at about 2 o'clock, P. M., the patriotic exercises will commence, consisting of the following:

1. Star Spangled Banner, Glee Club.
2. Prayer, Rev. M. Ransom.
3. Ode, Glee Club.
4. Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Glee Club.
5. The Red, White and Blue, Glee Club.
6. Oration, Rev. J. A. Savage.
7. Ode, Glee Club.
8. Original Poem, Dr. Arthur E. Jenks.
9. America, Audience.

Other short addresses may be expected.

Balloon Ascensions.

During the day and evening numerous fire-balloons will be sent up, some of which will contain appropriate sentiments.

Brilliant Display of Fireworks.

In the evening, a skillful and accomplished pyrotechnist from Boston, will send off some of the modern novel wonders in this domain of science.

The Grand Ball!

There will be a grand ball given in the Depot Building, commencing immediately after the display of fireworks. Messrs. R. B. Hussey, Alexander M. Myrick and Walter H. Burgess will act as floor directors.

Every arrangement has been perfected for a grand gala day at Surf-side, in commemoration of the nation's birthday, as also the anniversary of the opening of the railroad, when the first train of cars was run.

JULY 1, 1882.

MONDAY EVE., AUG. 1.

Grand Opening

—OF THE—

SKATING RINK

—AT—

Surf-side.

The Rink will be

HANDSOMELY ILLUMINATED

with Chinese lanterns.

FANCY SKATING

By Mr. C. B. Whitney.

Music by Cushing's Orchestra. Fare (Round Trip) including skating, 50 cents. Session from 8 to 10.

C. B. WHITNEY, Manager.

1881

AUCTION SALES.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE.

Surfside Hotel.

BY virtue and in execution of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Francis Duane to Arthur W. Tufts, late of the city of Boston, deceased, dated April 23, 1889, recorded with Nantucket Deeds, Lib. 73, Fols. 174, 175, 176, and for breach of the condition in said mortgage deed contained, in the non payment of principal and interest thereof, will be sold at public auction on the premises hereinafter described, on Wednesday the twelfth day of April, A. D. 1893, at three o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises by said mortgage deed conveyed, to wit:—A certain parcel of land, with the buildings thereon situated, in Nantucket, on the island of Nantucket, bounded and described as follows:—Beginning at the Northwest corner of Atlantic avenue and Hawthorne street, and running North 69 degrees, 24 minutes West, along the Northerly line of Atlantic avenue two hundred and 2-10 (200.2) feet, to a post; thence North 18 degrees east along the Easterly line of Central avenue, five hundred and eighty-five and 6-10 (585.6) feet, to a post; thence South 72 degrees East along the Southerly line of Nobadeer avenue, two hundred (200) feet, to a post; then South 18 degrees West, along the Westerly line of Hawthorne street, five hundred and ninety-four and 9-10 (594.9) feet, to the point of beginning, containing 115,030 square feet. Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to the provisions of the deed of the Trustees of the Nantucket Surfside Company to Philip H. Folger, dated February 21, 1883, recorded with Nantucket Deeds, Lib. 63, Fol. 38, and to the like provisions wherever occurring in the title deeds of said estate, so far as the same may be now in force or applicable. \$500.00 cash to be paid at time of sale.

For further information apply to S. A. & W. Bolster, No. 2304 Washington street, Boston, Mass.
ANNIE H. TUFTS,
Executrix of the will of Arthur W. Tufts.
Boston, March 14, 1893. ml8-3t

Apr. 1, 1893

Elias Lyon Donates Parking Lot For Surfside Sports Fishermen.

At last night's Selectmen's meeting, an offer of a parking lot for sports fishermen at Surfside was made by Elias J. Lyon. The lot is at the corner of Wannacommet Road and Nonantum Avenue. Mr. Lyon emphasized it is intended for surfcasting fishermen only and not for other parkers. The Selectmen accepted the offer.

At this point on the beach the bank is high and Secretary James K. Glidden said representatives of the Island Service Company are willing to donate lumber to build steps to the beach. Secretary Glidden said he would ask John Putterick to build the steps so they can be taken down for the winter. Signs will also be prepared for the Lyon lot to emphasize that parking is for fishermen only.

Members of the Rights of Way Committee, Charles Sayle and Elwyn Francis, reminded the Board that many of the Surfside public ways are filled up with grass and brush. They emphasized the necessity for clearing these ways to make them passable.

Aug. 15, 1958

FROM RIVERSIDE TO SURF-SIDE.



ORIGINAL DESIGN OF THE RIVERSIDE HOTEL, RIVERSIDE, R. I.

The large structure now being erected at Surf-side by the trustees of Surf-side lands, which will be known as the Surf-side Hotel, is being rapidly completed, and is in such an advanced stage of progress that we can give our readers some idea of its interior arrangement and appearance.

The building was erected at Riverside, R. I., on Providence river, some years since, as a hotel, from designs furnished by Walker & Co., of Providence, R. I., the original plan being as shown in the cut above, but the wings were never built. It proved an unfortunate investment for the builders, and after several poor seasons was in August last sold to the proprietors of the Surf-side lands, to be removed to Nantucket. The contract for taking it down was awarded to George B. Paddock & Co., of Providence, R. I., who began operations late in October, and on November 9, 1882, the first cargo was loaded for this place. Upon its arrival at Commercial wharf, it was discharged under the superintendence of Mr. Charles F. Coffin, and stored upon the wharf, and after the cold season had nearly passed, was transported by rail to its present site, the cellar and foundation having in the meantime been completed. A confused mass of wood, brick and stone it lay upon the bluff, from which it seemed impossible to the unacquainted to gather and properly place the mating pieces; but under the skilful hands of Mr. John S. D'Arcy, of Boston, the contractor, order has come out of chaos, the

Nobadeer pond, commanding a charming view of the entire southern shore of the island, as well as a pleasant land prospect.

The Surf-side Hotel building is 125x40 feet, with a broad, covered piazza on the front and sides ten feet in width. It is four stories in height, exclusive of the basement, and contains about seventy rooms. The basement, which will be neatly finished, will be devoted to billiard and store rooms, the former to occupy the east end, with a floor space 40x50 feet. The first floor is occupied by the dining hall, a spacious and cheerful apartment located at the right of the main entrance, which is 40x50 feet. At the rear of the main hall, which is 23.9x24.6, is located the office, at the left of which the main stair case ascends, coat and baggage rooms being connected with the office. On the front of the building at the left of the main entrance are located two private supper rooms, each 12x15 feet, opposite them being double parlors of the same size. The main parlor is at the west end of the building, occupying a floor space of 25x40 feet, and is accessible by a corridor leading from the main hall.

SECOND FLOOR.

On the second floor are located eighteen lodging rooms, each 12x14.6 feet, which are airy apartments, leading off from each side of the corridor extending the length of the building. At the left of the staircase are located the linen room, the toilet rooms, and maid's closet, the latter being supplied

with water from an immense tank located in the attic. The sanitary arrangements have been carefully looked after, the sewage being received by a huge cess pool well removed from the building.

THE KITCHEN.

About twenty-five feet in the rear of the hotel the kitchen is now building. This will be a structure 30x40 feet, two stories and basement, and will connect directly with the dining room by a passage 25x12 feet. In the basement will be located the laundry. The first floor will be used as the kitchen, where a Whiteley range, broilers, bakers, etc., of the most approved character will be used in the culinary work. Large pantry and dish closets are situated on the south side of this room. Everything in this department will be arranged for the most rapid preparation of food. The upper floor is to be devoted to sleeping apartments for the servants of the house. Water will be supplied the entire house by a steam pump, and arrangements are being completed for heating the house by steam for the comfort of such guests as may remain late in the season.

THE FURNISHINGS

of the house which are arriving daily, will be in excellent taste, the lodging rooms to be furnished with ash sets of the Eastlake pattern, and the parlors in ebony, upholstered in plush and silk. Just as soon as the rooms are completed the furniture will be set up.

THE PROPRIETOR.

Mr. Charles H. Moore, of the Maverick House, East Boston, is a gentleman born and bred to hotel business. He is a native of New Hampshire, and is well known to the traveling public as a man of genial nature, who makes friends wherever his steps



THE NEW SURF-SIDE HOTEL.

great building has slowly reared itself to the roof, and the interior finish is progressing most satisfactorily. Mr. D'Arcy took hold of the work early in February, the first fortnight being devoted to arranging the material for the most rapid handling, and on March 4 carpenters commenced the work of rebuilding, and though favored with the most deplorable spring weather experienced here for years, have improved every favorable opportunity, and the owners have reason to feel encouragement for its completion at an early date. The hotel is the exact counterpart of the building which stood at Riverside, and its exterior appearance is well defined in the accompanying cut, and is most desirably located a short distance west of

with water from an immense tank located in the attic. The sanitary arrangements have been carefully looked after, the sewage being received by a huge cess pool well removed from the building.

THE THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS are exact counterparts of the second, except a slight deviation in point of architectural design along the corridors, the number and size being in every respect the same. Electric bells connecting each room with the office, are to be supplied, and the house will also be lighted with gas manufactured on the premises, the gasometer to be remotely located.

THE KITCHEN.

About twenty-five feet in the rear of the

full. There is room enough for all, and Mr. Moore will be accorded a warm welcome among us. He will be here next week to superintend the preparation of the house. The joiner work is in the hands of John S. D'Arcy, of Boston; plumbing, Codd & Deacon, Nantucket; steam heating and piping, Walworth, Mfg. Co., Boston; foundation work, J. S. Appleton, Jr.; plastering, Brown & Ring; roofing, H. S. Valentine; painting, H. Paddock & Co.

As announced last week a gala opening of the house will occur July 4, when our people will have an opportunity of inspecting this complete hostelry—the SURF-SIDE HOTEL.

**Tom Nevers Head Naval Facility
Commissioned Last Monday.**

The U. S. Naval Facility at Nantucket, located at Tom Nevers Head, was officially commissioned at brief ceremonies held Monday afternoon. Before a small group of the officers of the Naval facility and their wives and guests Lieutenant M. H. Allen, of the Commander Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, conducted the ceremony and turned the command of the facility over to Lieutenant Commander T. C. Ondrechen.

Chaplain E. J. Dunn, of the Naval Chaplain Corps, opened the proceedings with a prayer, following which Lt. Allen read the orders from the Secretary of the Navy concerning the construction and commissioning of the facility. The facility was described as one of a series of such shore installations of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet, whose oceanographic observations will be of great importance to the Navy.

Lt. Allen then congratulated the men, and thanked the people of Nantucket for their cooperation and assistance. "The commissioning of this facility forges another link in the shore establishments of the Navy which are vital to the defense of our country," he concluded.

The American flag was raised, as the National Anthem was played, following which Lt.-Cmdr. Ondrechen "set the watch".

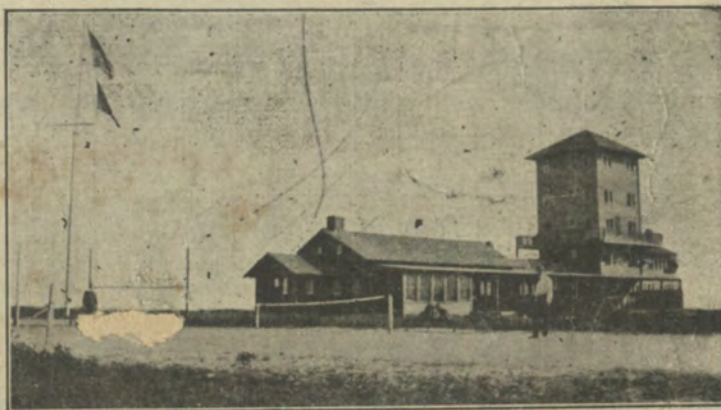
The Naval Facility has not been entirely completed, the SeaBees still being at work. Several of the buildings have to be completed and others built, and it is estimated that the construction battalion will be on the island until the end of September or the first of October.

There will be eight officers and 89 men attached to the facility, but as yet fewer than one-third of the men are on the island.

1921 SEASON

TOM NEVER'S LODGE

Will be managed by Miss Harriett Wilson,
of Chautauqua, N. Y.



Tom Never's Lodge, with its spacious piazzas and sunparlors; with its 2,000 acre private estate, 2 miles of private beach, tennis court, short distance to Sconset Golf links, offers unique advantages to a limited number of guests who are seeking the IDEAL Nantucket vacation.

Every room has electric lights, hot and cold running water. The excellence of the meals is guaranteed by the return of "Julia", famous last season for her unequalled cooking. Long distance and local telephone.

Transportation for guests furnished by new auto driven by experienced chauffeur. Tom Never's Road recently repaired. Rates are moderate when compared with the service rendered by Miss Wilson and her corps of assistants whom she brings with her.

Reduced rates during last 2 weeks in July. Open July 15th to September 15th. Before July 15th apply to Tom Never's Lodge, Suites 11 and 12, 1318 Beacon Street, Brookline 47, Mass. Afterwards to Lodge, Nantucket, Mass.

Wauwinet—Old and New.

Three generations of my family have known Wauwinet and even in my own years of living there great changes have taken place. What must have been the changes that have occurred during my father's life? The changes have not only been in buildings and trees, but in the ways of doing things and each period in Wauwinet's history seems to be associated with some person.

My father often tells about Tom Sylvia who worked at the Hotel and how, in the evening, the boys used to gather around him and listen to his stories. He told of a famous eel that he caught. Its head was lashed to the shore at Wauwinet and its tail was tied to the Round Shoal Light Ship. Tom Sylvia also claimed that the bottom of Polpis Harbor was formed by the shell of a large quahaug. He claimed, too, that a mosquito he saw was big enough to pick its teeth with a boat mast. Today there is no gathering about "the fish house" to listen to such yarns. The fish house has become an electric refrigerator.

I have often bought sodas at the Hotel but when my father was a boy he used to keep track of his sodas by putting marks on the Hotel office wall. You couldn't run the present Hotel that way.

The character that will always stand out in my boyhood memories of Wauwinet is Mr. James A. Backus. "Uncle Jim" he will always be to me. Uncle Jim stood a lot from us and never got angry. He knew boys. He caught my brother Bob once painting the side of the Hotel with some old paint, but he never said anything until long afterwards, and then he told it as a joke. Uncle Jim has gone and Wauwinet seems different without him. His going marks the end of a period in Wauwinet's history, and a new period is beginning.

William Jones, 8-A

Apr 3, 1937

Cyclone at Wauwinet.

Monday was hot and sultry, just such a day as is not un frequently followed by a thunder storm and when the heavy clouds began to accumulate at nightfall in the northwest everybody was expecting and prepared for the tempest which shortly followed. It proved to be a very tame affair, locally, however, and soon passed over and away from the town. In fact it at no time came very near.

Our neighbors at the east end of the island were less favored, however, and were treated to a genuine western cyclone, such as they had never before experienced and never want to again. Its force appears to have been felt at Wauwinet and Quiddnet, and in a somewhat diminished state at Siasconset. Several minutes before the storm struck struck, its approach was heralded by a roaring sound which was at first mistaken for thunder.

It was shortly before half-past eight when the cyclone struck Wauwinet, and its fury was spent in a few minutes, but it is described as terrible while it lasted. Hailstones as large as walnuts came crashing through the windows, houses



WAUWINET HOUSE AND COTTAGES

WAUWINET CASINO

(Licensed)

ROOMS and BOARD by DAY or WEEK

LUNCHEONS -- TEAS -- DINNERS

(It is requested that reservations be made in advance)

SURF AND STILL WATER BATHING -- BATH HOUSES
SAIL BOATS, ROW BOATS AND CANOES FOR RENT

35th SEASON

JAMES A. BACKUS, PROPRIETOR.

For particulars or reservations for meals or transportation, which should be made in advance, apply to Wauwinet House. Tel. 145. Or Wauwinet Co., SW Corner Main & Orange Sts., Nantucket. Tel 1040.

1934

MILDRED'S TEA ROOM

ON THE WAUWINET ROAD.

SERVED AT ANY TIME:

Waffles and Honey,
Cakes and Sandwiches,
Cinnamon Toast,
Ice Cream,

Muffins and Strawberry Preserves,
Toast and Preserves,
Tarts and Milk,
Tea and Coffee.

CHICKEN AND WAFFLE SUPPERS BY APPOINTMENT.

1921

rocked and trembled on their foundations, while the vivid lightning, the pealing thunder and shrieking blast combined, suggested pandemonium let loose. When this carnival of the elements had somewhat subsided, the rain poured down in torrents and continued to fall copiously for some time.

A tour of inspection revealed a scene of ruin and destruction. Cottages were twisted on their blockings and partly toppled over, windows demolished and growing crops beaten flat to the earth. The chapel was also wrenched and injured somewhat. A large whale boat and a dory belonging to Mr. W. H. Norcross had been carried hundreds of yards along the beach and smashed into kindling wood. A sailboat at anchor in the harbor with sail furled was caught by the blast and capsized before she could swing to her moorings.

At Siasconset the storm, though violent, was less severe, it having worked off shore as it followed down the coast.

June 14, 1894

Journal

EXTENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS AT WAUWINET.

The present popularity of Wauwinet is likely to be greatly increased by the improvements being made there. Mr. William M. F. Round has been on the island directing the changes in the property which he controls there. A new cottage is already far advanced toward completion. It has four bed rooms, dining room, kitchen and parlor, with a large open fire place in the latter room, and an eight-foot piazza all round. The old McCleave cottage and the Franklin Swain cottage have been purchased and extensively altered and enlarged. The Wauwinet House is being much improved and all the buildings are to be painted in the fashionable dark colors. The grounds are being put in good order, and a fine new wharf will soon be built under the direction of the Messrs. Norcross, who have leased the Wauwinet House for the coming season.

May 16, 1885

"Mother Backus."

Wauwinet will not be the same. "Mother Backus" has passed to her reward and there is a feeling of loneliness hovering about the hamlet at the head of Nantucket harbor. For years "Mother Backus" has been a part of Wauwinet, for there she made her home, summer and winter. With her late husband, James Allen Backus Sr., she watched the seasons come and go, changing the little village from a popular summer resort into an almost deserted place when winter approached. But the Backus family never deserted Wauwinet. It was there genial, friendly hospitality always hovered, in season and out, and it was there that Linda Backus spent the greater part of her married life. The delightful hospitality which always manifested itself at Wauwinet radiated her own personality. She was always the genial hostess, with a cheery welcome for all. Many a summer visitor, many a sportsman or gunner, many a casual friend who "just stopped in to say hello" has the most pleasant memories and the most delightful recollections of "Mother Backus", who entered into final rest last Saturday.

Sept. 19, 1942

THE WAUWINET BOOM.—Nantucket people have long appreciated the advantages of Wauwinet as a place of resort, and at last strangers are beginning to find them out. The coming season promises to be a very prosperous one here. There seems to be "a boom" in Wauwinet affairs. The land has just been divided into lots, and put upon the market, and these lots are finding ready purchasers. The Wauwinet House has been put in thorough order, a laundry is in process of erection, dainty awnings are going up on the beach, and new bath houses are being built. The rooms in the Wauwinet House have been newly painted, and carpeted with matting the best of mattresses and springs have been added to the beds, neat muslin curtains are at the windows, and the furniture is all new and fresh. Already applications for board are coming in rapidly, and the genial Capt. Small is likely to have his hands full.

May 6, 1882

FOR RENT AT WAUWINET.

"Good Luck."

THIS is a Beautiful Cottage of eight rooms, furnished complete for housekeeping. The land rises toward the ocean side, forming a low bluff, overlooking the sea. On this bluff the house stands, and so obtains a sweeping view of the harbor, over which the sun sets, of Coastue Point, Great Head and of the ocean as it stretches out into the east. The first floor consists of Dining and Living Room, Umbra, three Bed-rooms, Kitchen, Store-room, Porch, Closets, etc. On the second floor are Bedroom, Trunk room and Linen Closet. Both surf and still water bathing can be enjoyed within a stone's throw of the house. A short walk from this Cottage stands the "Wauwinet House," where tenants can procure their meals should they desire. Communication with Town is had by a small steamer and sailing packets which make several trips a day. For terms of rental and full particulars apply to Almon T. Mowry, Real Estate Agent, Nantucket, Mass. me26-tf

1887



Wauwinet Ferry-boat Lillian.

June 14, 1894

OBITUARY.

SMALLEY.—Capt. Charles E. Smalley, Collector of Customs of this port, died at his late home on Orange street early Sunday morning. He had not been in full health for two years, and about a year ago underwent an operation, which was temporarily successful. Recently complications developed, and he failed rapidly, and his death was a shock to the community. Capt. Smalley moved here with his family from Harwich at the time the fishing industry was at its height, and commanded very successfully vessels of the fleet. He was a popular skipper, and it was deemed an honor to sail with him. On the decline of the industry he was among the pioneers in boating, and established a ferry line between Nantucket and Wauwinet, which he has ever since maintained, and he and his boat—the Lillian—have always been popular with all, for he was a prudent boatman, a dignified, gentlemanly person, and even the timid felt at ease while he was in charge. For two or three seasons past he has been unable to personally command his boat, which he put in able hands. About a year ago he received the appointment of Collector of Customs. Capt. Charles E. Smalley was an exemplary citizen—one of Nature's noblemen—and was most highly esteemed in this, his adopted home, by every person in the community, for sterling characteristics. He leaves a widow and two daughters, to whom the tender sympathy of all will go forth in their hour of deep affliction. His remains were taken to Harwich for interment.

Capt. Smalley was a member of Nantucket Lodge, I. O. O. F., and a delegation from the lodge acted as pallbearers when the remains were taken to the steamer.

March, 1900

PRESENTATION.—Capt. C. E. Smalley, the popular skipper of the Wauwinet boat Lillian, has been made the recipient this week of a China pitcher with gilt and blue trimmings, and a set of six glasses, the gift of two Boston friends. On one side of the pitcher is the name "Lillian" in neat letters, and on the reverse a large yacht. Each glass has cut upon it the name "Lillian," and each bears beside an appropriate emblem—one having a yacht; the second Brant Point lighthouse; the third, crossed boat-hooks; the fourth, crossed oars; the fifth, crossed flags; and the sixth an anchor and road. The whole establishment is very tastily gotten up, and our friend takes great pride in exhibiting it to his acquaintances.

Aug. 5, 1882

YACHT LILLIAN,

Capt. C. E. Smalley.



WILL make two trips daily, (wind and weather permitting) from Steamboat wharf for the Wauwinet House, commencing Wednesday, June 22, 1892. Time of leaving, about 9 a. m. and 2 p. m. Fare, 20 cents. jef8 rea

1892

The hotel at the Haulover is to be called the Wauwinet House. It is an Indian name, and is the one by which the chief who formerly ruled in that quarter of the island was called. The name is a good one, the site is a good one, and undoubtedly the season will be a good one for the proprietors.

1876

For the Inquirer and Mirror. The Legend of Wauwinet.

Thus it is our daughters leave us,
Those we love, and those who love us.

(HIAWATHA.)

MESSES. EDITORS:—Since the publication of "Seaweeds from the Shores of Nantucket," nothing of a traditional nature concerning our island home, has impressed me so much as the noble poem written by Miss Charlotte P. Baxter, and published in your columns last week. Miss Baxter's beautiful story of the old Sachem, Wauwinet, ought to become embodied in the forthcoming History of Nantucket, not alone for its purely local character, but also as a very choice contribution to the literature of New England.

Wauwinet, as a favorite summer resort, is at once idealized. The aroma of our pine lands, the vigor of our sea breezes, the lights and shades of dear old Nantucket life make the entire poem fragrant. Strangers will turn to the cool, pebbly shores up harbor, with delight, now that Wonomo, "the handsomest of women, she, the loveliest and the gentlest," dwelt there; where "in harmony together, dwelt the tribe of old Wauwinet."

The verses are written with rhythmical sweetness that charms the reader. The allusion to the "days almost forgotten," and the pleasing scene of the red men at their work, varied by their wild Indian stories told by the fire-light, are put in such glowing phrase, we can almost imagine ourselves among the ancient forest kings. No less true are the glimpses of the tribe, and the description of the young and handsome Wonomo, so learned in the healing art of her people.

The bitter feud between the tribes is powerfully portrayed. This portion of the poem grows more intense in the dramatic attitude of the fearless Wonomo who overhears the dusky savage council, and plans to save her lover, the brave Antopacot. The following quotation poetically expressed, carries to the heart of the reader much of the pathos of this strange island tradition:

"I would tell you how Wonomo
Chanced to overhear this council;
How she listened, almost spell-bound
By the words she heard them utter.
And the first thought that came to her
Was the thought that she must save him,
Must, in some way, save her lover,
Much she knew she loved her father;
But much more she loved Antopacot.
She would brave all things to save him;
Even risk her life, if need be.
When her people all were sleeping,
Forth she stole, from out her wigwam;
To the water quickly sped she,
Launched her boat, and in the darkness
Rowed with greatest skill and caution
Toward the people she was saving.
Very dark the night seemed to her,
And she prayed the Mighty Father
That He would in safety guide her
To the people she was saving.
Then, as if her prayer were answered,
Slowly up from out the waters
Rose the moon, in all its beauty,
Giving light unto her pathway,
To her heart the needed courage."

The poem is full of pictures. Among them I pause to admire one so lovely, that it will never fade from my memory. It is drawn with a poetic pencil, and it is all aglow with the breath of nature. So often have I seen its counterpart from Sankaty Head, when, adown the roadway to Seonset, across the sloping vales lying between me and the town, the purple and golden shadows moved like phantom battalions towards the setting sun! Read with me one of the most eloquent passages in the whole story of Wauwinet:

"Now the day was slowly dying;
And its beauty slowly deepened
Till it reached its great perfection;
And the earth, and sky, and water
Shone with all its radiant splendor,
As we've seen on some loved faces
Rest the glory of the future.
Slowly then, and still more slowly
From the earth, and sky, and water
Passed away this radiant splendor;
And the grey mists of the evening
Slowly rose from land and water
Till they wrapped the hills and valleys
Round about in their night coverings.
In the hush and calm of twilight,
With his eyes still looking westward,
By the doorway of his wigwam
Stood the Sachem, stood Wauwinet."

All too brief is this appreciation of mine. I cannot forbear quoting the closing verses:

"Many moons have come and vanished
Since the last of these great people
Went upon his homeward journey
To the kingdom of Ponema,
To the land of the Hereafter,
But their earthly home, so cherished,
Still is left us, and I pray you,
While to-day beside the waters,
Near the home of old Wauwinet,
We are resting from our labors,
Leaving every care behind us,
Let us think of that great Sachem,
And renew the pledge he uttered—
That his home be so much cherished
Shall be ever prosperous, peaceful."

Such a legend as Miss Baxter has given to our island people, cannot be too highly prized. It is smooth and flowing in its versification; poetical in its charming imagery; forcible in its delineation of the Indian character. In a word, it is a grand traditional poem, a new honor to Nantucket, and its prompt recognition will give to its gifted authoress that refined approval which such literary efforts ever command.

A. E. J.

July 1, 1876

SEA FOAM HOUSE,

Head of the Harbor,
Nantucket, - - Mass.

S. B. HOWES, Proprietor.



THE above-named house, which has recently been erected, will be opened for the season on Tuesday, June 26th, for the accommodation of pleasure parties. Everything arranged for the complete comfort of guests. Steam and sailing yachts run regularly between town and this resort.

je23-tf

1877

Wauwinet House, At the Haulover, Nantucket.



THIS HOUSE will be opened June 11th. It is situated near the beach, and is a popular resort for fishing and sailing parties. Shark fishing within fifteen minutes' sail of the house; also, good pond fishing. Horses and carriages to let. Steamboats connect with the town several times daily. Good table and moderate prices. KENNEY & SMALL, Prop'rs.

June 9-3m

1877

Daily Excursions BY STEAM YACHT ISLAND BELLE,

—TO THE—

WAUWINET HOUSE.

THIS fine yacht will leave Steamboat wharf, east side of restaurant, every day, at 9 A. M., and 2 P. M. for this popular resort. Returning, will leave at 10.45 A. M., and 4.30 P. M. If the number of passengers warrants it, three trips will be made, the running time to be as follows: Leave at 9 A. M., 2 and 4.15 P. M. Returning, leave at 10.45 A. M., 3.15 and 5.30 P. M. aug5tf

W. F. CODD, Master.

1876

The Sea Foam House will open on Monday next, and landlord Howes will be prepared for any amount of company thereafter. A boat will run between Quiddnet and the Sea Foam House during the season, giving parties the opportunity to enjoy a sail along the outer shores of the island, besides the smooth water trip up the harbor.

June 1878

AT THE SEA FOAM.

Landlord Howes, of the Sea Foam House, at the Head of the Harbor, will inaugurate the season at his hotel by giving a grand dance in the evening, and supper, to participate in the whole of which will require but the small sum of seventy-five cents. The passage can be made by sail or steam yachts. Dancing will commence at 8 and continue until 12 o'clock. A good time is anticipated, and we have no doubt the anticipations will be realized, for Mr. Howes knows just how to make everything pleasant for his guests.

June 1878

Special for Wauwinet

THE Yacht Mischief, Captain D. B. Andrews, will make daily trips to Wauwinet, commencing July 29th. Leave the wharf at 10 a. m. Fare for round trip, 50 cents. Sunday excepted. jy27tf-1tt

Aug 3, 1901



A View of Wauwinet, Where the Members of the Commercial and Athletic Clubs Held Their Jollification, Tuesday.

APRIL 23, 1910



Village of Wauwinet Saved From Serious Fire.

Wauwinet had a fire Wednesday evening—and a lively one, too. The building housing the Delco electric-lighting apparatus was burned to the ground and but for the fact that the LaFrance piece of fire apparatus made such a prompt response to the telephone call for help, carrying out a crew of fire-fighters from town, the hotel buildings and possibly some of the cottages near-by would have been destroyed.

The fire was noticed by Mrs. Backus about 8.30 o'clock and she at once telephoned to the central fire station, nine miles away. The LaFrance pumper rushed out with her crew and in fifteen minutes after the call was sent from Wauwinet, the apparatus had her chemical stream playing on the burning building and her crew were fighting the flames, which were already scorching one of the small hotel buildings adjoining.

It was excellent work and another demonstration of efficiency by the members of the department. Had it occurred two hours later, after the residents at Wauwinet had retired, the fire would have created havoc in the village before help could have been summoned.

The event demonstrated two things aside from the efficiency of the department. One was the value of a good hard road to Wauwinet, bringing it within reach of the fire apparatus from town. The other was that the LaFrance piece of apparatus can make the long run of nine miles across the island at top speed and be ready for business when she gets there.

The apparatus doubtless saved far more than its own cost by its timely arrival at Wauwinet, Wednesday evening. And the concrete road was the means of bringing help from town which could not possibly have reached the village a few years ago over the mud and clay road that then made travel to Wauwinet entirely beyond reason during the early spring months.

Good highways and good fire apparatus are equally as important to a community as good water and good sewers—yes, and good schools.

March 19, 1927

Capt. Asa W. N. Small whose death occurred on Monday last, came to Nantucket some twenty years ago to take charge of the Wauwinet house which he conducted a number of seasons. Prior to that he had commanded vessels in the East India trade and the Liverpool line of packets between that port and Boston. He was a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities and belonged in South Harwich, to which place his remains were taken for interment. He leaves a widow and two children—a son and daughter.

June 31, 1894

History of the Wauwinet Trees.

My father, Mr. William F. Jones, has told me the interesting story of the Wauwinet trees and I have written here a brief history of them.

At one time there were no trees in Wauwinet. The place was wind-swept and bare except for a few "swamps". The fields and hills were bare of shrubs and had only grass on them.

My grandfather, Bassett Jones, Sr., bought our place at Wauwinet in 1881 and in 1890 began planting trees. He spent some time studying the climate and trying to find a kind of tree that would stand the wind and salt spray. Finally, he found that the island and the coast of Southern Japan had the same kind of climate and he asked the great tree expert of the Arnold Arboretum, Mr. Wilson, to bring some seeds of the black Japanese pine from Japan. Mr. Wilson brought the seeds and they were planted at the Arnold Arboretum and several years later the young trees were sent to Wauwinet and planted. This was the first planting of this kind of pine tree outside of Japan.

The young trees did well. Among them were planted other kinds—the Scotch pine, Austrian pine and Mugho pine. These would not have grown by themselves at Wauwinet but as the Japanese pines grew up, they protected the others from the wind.

The Japanese pines not only grew well but the seed from their cones began to grow into wild trees and some of the best looking trees in Wauwinet today are wild trees. This was the first time this pine tree had seeded itself outside of Japan!

Wauwinet is a very different place than it was in 1890. The trees give protection from the wind and all sorts of other trees like oaks and maples and willows thrive. Thickets of shrubbery have grown up and cover the land which used to be just open fields.

There are now many thousands of Japanese pines on Nantucket which were grown from seed taken from the original trees at Wauwinet. The first trees planted at Wauwinet have nearly reached their age limit and this year about sixty of them have been cut down so that young trees can be planted in their place.

William Jones, Jr.

March 21, 1936

NOTICE.

ON and after June 20th, 1876, the new and staunch yacht

LILLIAN,

CAPT. C. E. SMALLEY.

will make two trips daily (wind and weather permitting), from Steamboat wharf, to and from the Head of the Harbor, in connection with the

"WAUWINET HOUSE,"

for the purpose of taking passengers. She will leave here at about 9.30, A. M., and 2, P. M. Fare each way, twenty cents. Jeltott

1896

(1876)

Camp David Gray.

Camp David Gray, located on the Wauwinet Road, opened Monday, July 8, with an attendance of nine children whose average under-weight was four pounds. The camp is in charge of Mrs. Hilleary, an experienced camp nurse, who for the next six weeks will give the children training in swimming, health exercises, and personal hygiene.

The camp is financed in the main by the money obtained from the sale of tuberculosis seals during the previous December and from a substantial gift from the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

The last seal sale and contributions yielded about seven hundred dollars, while the estimated budget for camp and administration expenses is one thousand dollars.

In order to meet the deficit of three hundred dollars, the executive committee of the Public Health Association will conduct a tag day, Monday, July 15—upon which day in particular the camp will be open to public inspection.

Will you buy a tag and so help these Nantucket children towards health and happiness?

July 13, 1929

Passing of James A. Backus On Sunday.

Wauwinet will never be the same, now that "Jim" Backus has passed on. Wauwinet and James A. Backus were synonymous. Years of association had cemented the name of "Backus" with "Wauwinet" to such a degree that the mention of one meant the other. The passing away of this sterling citizen last Sunday morning after a lingering illness meant the severance of many ties of friendship that for years have been cherished by residents and summer visitors.

"Jim" Backus was a part of Wauwinet. It had been his home for many years; it had been his livelihood; he had worked for it and with it, summer and winter, and it was there the glad hand of good fellowship and cordial greeting always awaited the visitor. But without his genial presence things will be different—they could not be otherwise. Others will carry on—Wauwinet will continue—its popularity will increase—but without the presence of the genial "Jim" it can never be the same.

Born on Nantucket August 11, 1865, the son of the late George A. and Mary J. (Barrett) Backus, the deceased was one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Nantucket. Everybody admired him; everyone had faith in him. He was a man of wise counsel who never reached a decision without careful forethought or without giving proper weight to both sides of the problem. As a member of the town's Finance Committee he rendered excellent service and gave substantial advice.

Calm in manner, quiet in speech, he was always a pleasing conversationalist and visitors to Wauwinet found in him a rugged character and a fine example of good citizenship—one whom it was a pleasure to know and in whose companionship there was delight.

Mr. Backus followed the trade of carpenter a number of years and worked for several of the old-time



THE LATE JAMES A. BACKUS

contractors and builders, among them the late George Worrton and the late Charles H. Robinson.

Since he took over the management of "Wauwinet" and became a fixture there, he has seen the little hamlet grow from a simple shore-dinner resort to a thriving summer colony, which it is today. Years ago, Wauwinet was dependent upon the catboat "Lillian" for service between the hamlet and town and when the big craft ran up to the Wauwinet pier on her trips twice a day during the summer months, with passengers, baggage and provisions, there was rarely a time when the cheerful countenance of "Jim" Backus was not at the end of the pier with a pleasant word of greeting to all.

With the passing of the "Lillian" went one of the features which made Wauwinet unique, but time changes all things and time brought the automobile, the cement road and electric lights to the village. But now the greatest change of all has come—Wauwinet and "Jim" Backus have met the parting of the ways.

Wauwinet will continue, the name of "Backus" will carry on, and the spirit of him who has now passed on will ever hover over the village. There will be a void, to be sure, for there is a breach in the family circle, but fond memories of him who was every inch a man will never be erased.

The deceased is survived by his widow, Mrs. Linda Small Backus, by a daughter, Mrs. John Shaw, and by two sons, James Allen Backus, Jr. and Robert S. Backus. He also leaves a little grand-daughter; two brothers—John E. Backus and Everett Backus—and a sister, Mrs. Arthur A. Norcross.

He was a member of Union Lodge, F. & A. M.; of Isle of the Sea, Royal Arch Chapter; of Nantucket Lodge, I. O. O. F., Wanackmamack Encampment, and Sherburne Chapter, No. 182, O. E. S.

Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday afternoon, with the business places of the town closed from 2 to 3 p. m. as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased. Interment was in the Prospect Hill Cemetery under Masonic rites.

DECEMBER 12, 1936

WAUWINET Ferry-boats "LILLIAN" and "EMMA J."

will make regular trips between Nantucket and Wauwinet during the season, affording a delightful sail through Nantucket harbor, to and from this famous Shore Dinner Resort.

Fare, 25 cents each way.

"Lillian" leaves Steamboat wharf, Nantucket, at 9 a. m. and 2 p. m. Leaves Wauwinet at 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. "Emma J." leaves Wauwinet at 9.30 a. m. and 2.15 p. m. Leaves Nantucket at 11 a. m. and 4.30 p. m. On Sundays leaves Nantucket at 2 p. m., and Wauwinet at 4 p. m.

Second Annual "Wauwinet Reunion" Held in New York.

The second annual reunion of the Wauwinet Association was held on Saturday last, in New York, at the Hotel Martinique. It was a very merry and enthusiastic party of real Wauwineters who gathered at the call of the committee in charge, given a month or so before, and although the invitations expressly said that bathing suits could not be allowed, the effect of full evening dress—where one was used to middy blouse and kahki—was almost staggering at first. The spirit of the affair was not staggered for very long, however, and one of the liveliest "yacht club" meetings in the Casino would never have thought of rivaling with this.

The menu was strictly Wauwinet, from the "Woodward Cocktail," (with regards to the mariner who first greets arrivals by the S. S. Lillian); Oysters (not clams nor quahaugs); Bisque of Lobsters (prepared from a consignment direct from off Haulover); Plaiice-fish a la Coatue; Potatoes Portuguese; Timbale of Virginia Ham, "Sankaty"; Sorbet, Submarine—"For they went to sea in a sieve, they did, they did." [Apologies are here offered to the author]; Roast Squab sur Canape; Mixed Salad, Quidnet; and Bisque Glace to Wauwinet Cakes. This was accompanied by sketches of Wauwinet life by Charles Webb, Anna Hempstead Branch, William Vaughan Moody, Walter L. Harden and Frank Dempster Sherman.

Feb. 28, 1914

YACHT LILLIAN,



Capt. C. E. Smalley,

WILL make two trips daily (wind and weather permitting) from Steamboat Wharf for the Wauwinet House, commencing Monday, June 21st, 1897. Time of leaving, about 9 a. m. and 2 p. m. FARE, 20 CENTS. je19

Casino at Wauwinet.

James A. Backus has purchased the chapel building at Wauwinet and will move it up to his hotel property, for use as an entertainment hall and casino. The building will be remodelled somewhat, with increased stage capacity, dressing rooms, etc., and will be connected with the hotel by corridors and piazzas. It will be used for professional and amateur theatricals during the summer season, and will prove a valuable addition to the social facilities of the village.

Nov. 9, 1907

Wauwinet Reunion.

A Wauwinet reunion and banquet, in memory of "the good old summer time," was held at the Thorndike Hotel, Boston, on February 15th, under the auspices of Harry Pinkham and "Wynn" Spooner. It was the first "Reunion of All True Wauwineters," which will be held hereafter every winter, and it was a great success.

Some of those present were: Thomas C. Bell and Charlie Bell, of Pleasantville, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Gregg, of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Weld, of Lowell, Mr. and Mrs. Cluxton, Mr. and Mrs. Aram, Mr. Berry, Mr. Holt, Mr. Darling, Mr. and Mrs. Pinkham, Louise and "Sonny" Pinkham, of Boston, Merrick Gray, of Walpole, Bob Brewer, "Wynn" Spooner and Dr. Spooner, of Hingham, Miss Betty Howland, of Norwichtown, Conn., Mr. and Mrs. Wallace T. Morley and the Misses Elizabeth and Constance Morley, of Worcester.

To say the least, it was an informal affair from the beginning, when the guests were summoned to the table by a real Wauwinet dinner bell.

During the dinner, Mr. Pinkham was presented with a large toy duck. The joke was not appreciated by all until an explanation was given, but it seems that Mr. Pinkham has a way of running down to Wauwinet out of season, on which occasions the wild (?) ducks have to suffer. He is a true sport, however, and declares that they were worth the price paid for them, even to the bribe which kept the little affair from the reading public.

The reunion was a grand success and a delightfully social affair, with menu cards decorated with the colors of the Wauwinet Yacht Club and all things in keeping with Wauwinet enthusiasm, even to the music. Several telegrams were read from enthusiasts who found it impossible to be present.

March 8, 1913

Stunt Party at Wauwinet.

A delightful memorable occasion was Saturday night's "Stunt Party" at the Wauwinet House, when standing room only prevailed, and a long waiting line, not discouraged by the rain, reminded old theatre goers of the Hippodrome.

Mr. Skinner kept the impatient audience happy with well-played selections on the piano, and Masters Billy and Malcolm Miller, dressed as sunbonnet babies, sold peanuts and candy to the eager throng. Mr. Thomas Bell was master of ceremonies, welcoming guests, introducing the various artists, and explaining the object of the evening's entertainment—namely, to make a little present to the "Old Peoples' Home" of Nantucket.

The opening number on the program received an ovation, and consisted of a quintet of ladies, appropriately costumed, who sang quaint airs of long ago, and responded graciously to an enthusiastic encore. Mesdames Boynton, Bostwick, Taylor, Hopper and Haines were the artists.

Miss Pinkham gave three delightful recitations, in most charming and artistic fashion—"A Frenchman's Version of the Garden of Eden," "A Schoolboy's Essay on Patrick Henry," and "A Woman's Faith."

The next number was a mandolin and piano duet by Miss Boynton and Mr. Skinner, which was heartily applauded by the audience.

Mr. Bell thrilled his hearers with a "Georgia Preacher's Sermon on Faith," Kipling's "Mother o' Mine," and the "Story of the Little Red Hen."

Dr. Hedges and Mr. Cochran then recited the historic "Old Ironsides" in a truly co-operative manner, Dr. Hedges furnishing the oratory and Mr. Cochran the gestures. This masterly effort brought down the house.

Mr. Haines next followed with a capital impersonation of Bert Williams, the black-face artist, giving a Coney Island experience, a dry spell, and a sociable game of poker. This number was one of the big hits of the evening.

Dr. Hedges then related a hair-raising story of a big black bear, a honey pot, a terrified tourist, and a stick of dynamite in the right place.

Mr. Crum next entertained the audience with wizard tricks with tennis balls, accompanied by a running monologue of wit and wisdom.

The last number was a musical medley, given by the "Fearless Double Quartet," and affording immense satisfaction to all concerned.

Messrs. Curr, Cochran, Miller, Pinkham, Bell, Hedges, Martin and Harral gave a wonderful program as follows: "Way Down Yonder in the Cornfield," "the Old Family Tooth Brush," "Seeing Nellie Home," "Goodnight Ladies," and "How Dry I Am." Mr. Miller and Mr. Bell did the incidental dancing so admirably that the whole affair wound up in a blaze of glory.

A neat sum was realized for the "Old People's Home," and the Wauwinet colony was convinced once more that it need not go far for all the talents and accomplishments needed for a successful summer evening's enjoyment.

July 10, 1920

"THE LEGEND OF WAUWINET"

A Pretty Indian Legend of Nantucket, Written by Miss Charlotte P. Baxter and First Published in The Inquirer and Mirror Nearly Forty Years Ago.

(Re-published by request.)

As backward, Time doth point his hand
Across a century's glory
All eyes are turned and all our land
Repeats the wondrous story.

In retrospection all can see
The deeds of our great nation;
And all rejoice, from those made free
To those of highest station.

Then seated by our own fireside,
Each hears in dim tradition,
Some tale that he may claim with pride
And joyful recognition.

And farther back we look and see—
Far back across the ages—
Brave deeds once done on land and sea
Unknown to History's pages.

Now backward let us turn our gaze;
For here, beside the ocean,
The waves might tell of other days,
As they toss in ceaseless motion.

In the days almost forgotten;
In the days before our island
Heard the tread of white man's foot-steps,
Heard the stir of active commerce,
Saw the gleaming sails of vessels—
In those days almost forgotten—
On our island dwelt the red men.
Long they dwelt in peace together,
Following out their daily callings,
Broke the land and fished or hunted;
And at night beside the wigwam,
When the South Wind, Shawondasee,
From his home of warmth and beauty
Breathed upon them in the stillness
Of the peaceful summer evening,
There they smoked the pipe together;
Fashioned there the heads of arrows,
Into baskets wove the willow.
And when from the land of Winter—
From the land of cold and darkness—
Came the drear Habibonokka,
Came the dreary, cruel North Wind,
Then within the wigwam seated
By the cheerful, blazing firewood,
There they told strange tales and legends,
Or, with greater skill and cunning,
Carved, from pieces of the pine tree,
Bowls and spoons of strange devices.

On the east side of the island—
Where they said from out the waters
Spoke the voice of the Great Spirit—
There in harmony together,
Dwelt the tribe of old Wauwinet.
Well beloved was this great Sachem;
Well beloved of all his people;
And they listened to his counsels,
And they hearkened to his wisdom.
Dear to him were all his people;
But of all the nearest, dearest,
Was his daughter, was Wonoma.
She the loveliest and the gentlest,
Well she knew the art of healing;
Skilled was she in all the uses
Of the herbs that grew around them.
And, whenever from the waters,
Spoke the voice of the Great Spirit,
She could tell unto her people
What the words were, and the meaning.

She would brave all things to save him—
Even risk her life, if need be.
When her people all were sleeping,
Forth she stole from out her wigwam,
To the water quickly sped she,
Launched her boat, and in the darkness
Rowed with greatest skill and caution
Toward the people she was saving.
Very dark the night seemed to her,
And she prayed the mighty Father
That He would in safety guide her
To the people she was saving:
Then, as if her prayer was answered;
Slowly up from out the waters
Rose the moon in all its beauty,
Giving light unto her pathway,
To her heart the needed courage.

Very tiresome was the journey,
And her strength almost exhausted
When she reached a place of landing,
Where upon the shining beach sand,
She might leave her boat in safety.
Then a long and weary distance,
Over rough and stony places,
Onward, through the dreadful stillness,
She must keep her journey westward.
Though her feet were torn and bleeding,
And her brain seemed madly burning,
Yet the thought that she must save him,
Urged her onward, ever onward,
Till she came among that people,
Till she knew that she had saved them.
Then the gentlest of the women
Bathed her feet so torn and bleeding;
Cooled them with the healing ointment,
Bade her rest within the wigwam,
While Autopscoth called his people,
That when with the morrow's dawning,
Came the people from the eastward,
They might be prepared to meet them.

When Wauwinet with his warriors
Left his home beside the waters,
Very sure he felt of victory—
Sure that he would take as captive
All the tribe of brave Autopscoth
That, when they had yielded to him,
What they claimed as their possession
In the land that lay between them,
He would free them and in kindness
Leave them then, their just possessions.
When he reached the mighty people;
Saw them there, prepared to meet him,
Knowing that his scheme so subtle
Was overthrown by one still subtler,
Then he turned and with his warriors,
Slowly then retraced his footsteps—
Slowly journeyed to the eastward—
To his home beside the waters.

Now the day was slowly dying,
And its beauty slowly deepened
Till it reached its great perfection;
And the earth and sky and water
Shone with all its radiant splendor;
As we've seen on some loved faces
Rest the glory of the future.
Slowly then, and still more slowly
From the earth, and sky and water
Passed away the radiant splendor:
And the grey mists of the evening
Slowly rose from land and water,

On the west side of the island,
And upon the hills, Popsquatchet,
Dwelt the tribe of brave Autopscoth.
He, the young, the learned, the noble,
He, the pride of all his people
For his learning and his goodness;
Once, when Fever came among them,
Laid his hand so hot and blasting
On the bravest and the wisest,
Then it was that their Autopscoth
Hearing of the young Wonoma—
Hearing of her art in healing—
Sent a messenger unto her,
Praying her to come and save them
From the cruel, blasting Fever.
With the messenger, Wosoka—
While the morning star shone brightly,
Smiling at its own reflection
Mirrored in the calm still waters—
From her home went forth Wonoma,
And she came among the people
Dying with the cruel Fever,
And she cooled the burning forehead.

Words of comfort spake she to them
And she healed them and she saved them;
This great people learned to love her;
Looked upon her as their savior;
And they prayed her tarry with them
That they might, in some way, show
How they blessed her for her goodness—
For the boon of life she gave them.
Then Autopscoth, their great Sachem
Spoke and said unto Wonoma:—
"Oh! Wonoma, ever cherished
Will thy name be by my people,
And I pray you listen to them—
Listen to the prayers they utter.
For their sakes I pray you listen,
But above all, for my own sake,
For the great love that I bear you."
And Wonoma answered, smiling,
That because she loved his people,
But more truly loved their leader,
She would come again among them—
Come again to go not from them.
Would you know? Then I would tell you
How the pleasant, friendly feeling,
Which so long a time existed
Twixt the tribe of old Wauwinet
And the people of Autopscoth,
Changed to hard and angry feelings,
Then to feelings of deep hatred,
Till a war arose between them
And the land was wrapped in darkness
From the war-cloud resting o'er them.
Would you know, then I would tell you
How the cause of this contention
Was the slightest, was most trivial;
How the feelings of great hatred
Simply grew from a discussion
Of the land that lay between them.
But Wauwinet, the great Sachem,
Tiring of this useless bloodshed,
Called in council round about him
Many of his wisest warriors;
And they laid a plan most subtle,
How they might when least expected,
Steal upon that Western people;
Capture them and make them prisoners.

I would tell you how Wonoma
Chanced to overhear this council;
How she listened, almost spell-bound
By the words she heard them utter,
And the first thought that came to her
Was the thought that she must save him,
Must, in some way, save her lover.
Much she knew she loved her father,
But much more she loved Autopscoth.

Till they wrapped the hills and valleys
Round about in their night coverings.
In the hush and calm of twilight,
With his eyes still looking westward—
By the doorway of his wigwam
Stood the Sachem—stood Wauwinet—
Stood upon the evening stillness.
Broke the sound of coming footsteps
And he saw a form approaching—
Saw the face of brave Autopscoth.
Then the young man slowly bending
In his eye great longing, pleading,
Spoke and said unto Wauwinet:
"Oh! my father! Oh! most noble!
Dark have been the days about us
And still darker have the nights been;
In our hearts the darkest hatred:
Hear me speak, O mighty father!
For the love I bear Wonoma,
For the love she bears her father.
She it was who gave me warning;
Told me of your plan to conquer.
O, my father! O, most noble!
For the love we bear Wonoma,
For the sake of both our people,
May there not be peace among us?"

While Autopscoth had been speaking
O'er the face of old Wauwinet
Spread the shadow of great anger,
And in silence long he stood there;
And the breeze came from the pine trees,
And the sound of breaking waters
Rose and fell in rhythmic cadence,
Breathing peace from the Great Spirit.
From the face of old Wauwinet
Passed away this cloud of anger,
In his heart he felt the influence
Of the peace which reigned about them,
And he spoke unto Autopscoth
In the tones of friendly feeling,
Saying: "O, my son Autopscoth,
Great has been the lesson taught me,
That I, myself, am not almighty—
That there is a power beyond me
Unto which I have to yield me.
Great the love I bear Wonoma,
And if she so truly loves you,
There should only be between us
Words and thoughts that are most friendly."
Then these two great Indian Sachems
Who had been such bitter foemen,
Clasped each other's hands in friendship;
And that night before they parted,
They had made a just division
Of the land so long disputed;
And they pledged that ever after
Only peace should reign between them;
And that this should be more certain,
And the home they so much cherished
Should be ever prosperous, peaceful,
Old Wauwinet gave his daughter,
Gave the dearest of his treasures,
To the young and brave Autopscoth.

Many moons have come and vanished,
Since the last of these great people
Went upon his homeward journey
To the kingdom of Ponema,
To the land of the Hereafter;
But their earthly home so cherished
Still is left us; and I pray you
While to-day beside the waters,
Near the home of old Wauwinet,
We are resting from our labors,
Leaving every care behind us,
Let us think of that great Sachem,
And renew the pledge he uttered—
That his home he so much cherished
Shall be ever prosperous, peaceful.

Wauwinet House,
AT THE HAULOVER,
Nantucket, - - Mass.
OPEN JUNE 23, '81.

Shore dinners served in the very best style.
Lobsters, Bluefish and Clams prepared to order for private parties. Special dinners should be arranged for one day in advance if possible. Guests will find an opportunity here for still water or surf bathing. Boats for sharking parties furnished on application.
NORCROSS BROTHERS, Prop'r's.
W. H. NORCROSS, Manager. je7-3m

WAUWINET HOUSE,
AT THE HAULOVER,
Nantucket, - - Mass.
OPEN JUNE 15, '86.

Shore dinners served in the very best style. Lobsters, Bluefish and Clams prepared to order for private parties. Special dinners should be arranged for one day in advance if possible. Guests will find an opportunity here for still water or surf bathing. Boats for sharking parties furnished on application.
J. V. SMALL, Proprietor. je12-3m

WAUWINET, situated at the head of the harbor, is one of the finest locations on the island of Nantucket for boating, bathing and fishing. The Wauwinet House, which opened Monday, is under the management of Mr. William B. Gardner, who comes here as no stranger, being a native of the island. He has many warm friends, and we have it upon authority of former patrons, that wherever he has established himself, he has acquired the reputation of setting a first-class table.

Wauwinet is easily reached either by steam or sailing craft, and the trip is a charming one of about eight miles over the waters of our beautiful inner harbor. We wish Mr. Gardner abundant success.

THE HAULOVER.

Gen. Warren suggests an appropriation of \$1200 and submits a plan for cutting through it, but does not favor the project.

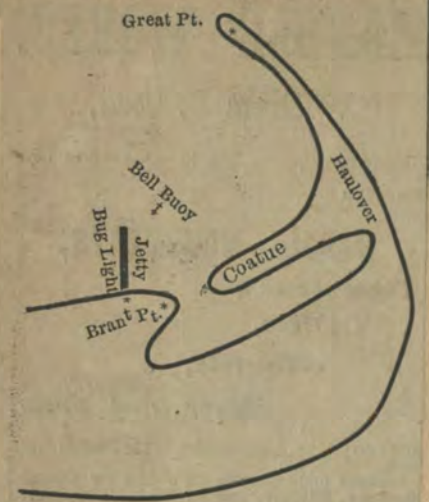
[From the Report of Lieut. Col. G. K. Warren to Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright, Chief of Engineers.]

ENGINEER OFFICE, U. S. A.,
Newport, R. I., Nov. 25, 1879.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report on the examination or survey of Nantucket Harbor, Massachusetts, authorized by the act approved March 3, 1879, requiring estimates of cost of proper improvements.

It must be noted that the wording of the act does not specify any particular place of improvement; whether to deepen the water on the bar at the existing entrance, which the United States undertook to do by dredging in 1829-'30-'31, or to make an opening through the Haulover Beach into the "upper harbor," a scheme that has several times been brought up for consideration, and notably so in the reports accompanying the annual report of the Board of Harbor Commissioners of Massachusetts for the year 1872, and there recommended as "an experiment" "worth an earnest trial."

My surveys and report made in 1874, above referred to, covered both these projects, and so have the recent examinations. The small map inserted here shows the different parts of the harbor.



While at Nantucket I consulted numbers of the leading men of that place, and found beyond doubt that the movers in the application for this last survey were animated with a desire to have the attempt made to open a channel through the Haulover into the head of the harbor mainly to obtain a harbor of refuge, although there were some other benefits expected from this work, if successful, such as facilitating the local fisheries, &c.

I quote below the memorial addressed to Congress at the last session. This was signed by 300 persons, and included the underwriters at New York and Boston:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The undersigned, citizens of Nantucket, in the State of Massachusetts, respectfully represent that the Nantucket Bar, which has always been an obstruction to the harbor entrance, has, during the past few years, become a greater obstruction by a lessened depth of water thereon; that the main harbor, being the only one accessible, cannot be entered at low-water by the mail-steamer, and that the mail and passengers are frequently delayed in consequence thereof; that the detriment of business interests; that the upper harbor is separated from the ocean on the east by a strip of sand about 250 feet wide at low-water mark; that it offers anchorage of 5000 acres, 18 feet deep, and if a channel be cut through this narrow neck of land connecting the ocean with this broad bay, a harbor of refuge would be secured for passing vessels, and most likely, from a change of the currents, the sand-bar would be removed from the entrance to the present harbor, and afford additional refuge for the immense coasting-trade around Cape Cod between Boston, New York, and elsewhere; that there is no adequate harbor of refuge for vessels detained by the shoals east of Block Island or Newport, and none equal to that offered by the Upper Nantucket Harbor, if an opening can be effected with the ocean, because there is deep water both inside and outside of the proposed cut, not much littoral sand, and a slack-water region for a large part of the time, the waves of the sea never being as fierce as at other parts of the island shore; that the prosperity of the town will be improved by affording an outlet to the fishing-ground for small vessels, which cannot now reach this ground, except by passing a rough and dangerous shoal at Great Point. They, therefore, respectfully pray that your honorable bodies will make an appropriation of money sufficient to give the experiment a fair trial.

It will be as well to consider the matter, at first, in the order it is presented in this memorial.

That the Nantucket bar has always been an obstruction, and of a most serious character too, is unquestionable. The survey made by Lieut. Jonathan Prescott, First United States Artillery, reported January 13, 1829, gives the depth on the shoalest bar as "6 feet at low-water"; Lieutenant Prescott does not state what low-water is meant, whether mean or extreme, but it is probable that mean low-water is intended.

The United States Coast Survey charts of the survey of 1846 show 6 feet at mean low-water. Further soundings by the United States Coast Survey in 1865 show still 6 feet as the limiting depth. The survey made by me in 1874 shows about the depth of 6 feet at mean low-water; and our examinations this year show a depth of 6 feet at mean low-water. (The mean rise of the tide is about 3 feet. Spring-tides range about 4 feet, so that low-water of spring-tides would not give more than 5 1-2 feet on the bar, and the extreme low-waters of very rare occasions may not allow more than 4 feet.)

It does not appear then, as a fact that the bar has, during the past few years, become a greater obstruction by a lessened depth thereon; but the line of deepest water is frequently shifting. This is supposed by some to be due to changes produced by the ice lodging upon the bar in winter, and the changing appears to have been principally on the outer shoals, and always in a direction to the eastward.

It is a fact that the mail-steamer experienced unusual delays in the early part of the present year, but this was owing to the new channels which had formed not being found. Captain Gibbs, of the light-house steamer Verbena, however, sounded and buoyed the new channel line, which, as our recent survey shows, has the normal depth of 6 feet at mean low-water as its limiting shoal just as it has been heretofore. I believe it is conceded now, even by those who drafted the memorial, that the depth on the bar is as great as as it has ever been.

While on the matter of obstruction to entering Nantucket Harbor, it may as well be stated that the ice in winter does not generally prevent the mail-steamer going out and in. Some winters she loses 1, 2, or 3 days. In the experience of 48 years—the first steamer was put on in 1831—there were not more than 5 winters when 15 days lost. In the winter of 1856-'57 30 to 40 days were lost.

Consultations which I had with the people show that there is probably a larger interest felt in having an improvement of the depth on this bar, if it can be done, than to attempt to make the harbor of refuge by cutting through the beach at the Haulover; so I shall present further on a project for deepening the existing entrance, but first will finish the consideration of the other plan as petitioned for in the memorial.

The memorial goes on to state—

That the head of the harbor is separated from the ocean on the east side by a strip of sand about 250 feet wide at low-water mark; that it offers anchorage of 5,000 acres, 18 feet deep, and if a channel be cut through this narrow neck of land connecting the ocean with this broad bay a harbor of refuge would be secured for passing vessels.

There is here a large miscalculation as to the size of this head of the harbor, which includes only the part between Pocomo Head and the Haulover Beach, this part being separated from the rest of the harbor by a shoal not having more than 1 to 2 feet depth on it at low-water.

According to the United States Coast Survey charts the whole area of the upper harbor between Pocomo Head and the Haulover at low-water is 1,920 acres or 3 square miles; the area having 6 feet at mean low-water, 960 acres or 1 1-2 square miles; the area having 12 feet at mean low-water, 280 acres or 2-5 square mile; the area having 18 feet at mean low-water, 128 acres or 1-5 square mile.

The area of 12 feet depth in this head of the harbor (2-5 square mile) is in shape about 1 mile long and 2,000 feet wide, which indicates its capacity as a harbor of refuge for average coasters. This is such that it would make a desirable harbor, but it is not so likely to maintain an outlet as the one of larger dimensions named in the memorial.

It should be said in explanation of the origin of the larger figure given in the memorial that it may have been mistaken from being approximately the area of the whole harbor inside of Brant Point; but this whole area cannot be counted upon to aid in maintaining a new outlet while the present one exists.

In my assistant's report of 1874 it is stated that the head of the harbor has an area of 5,000 acres 12 feet deep, and this may have originated the larger error of the memorial, viz. 5,000 acres 18 feet.

The leading men among the petitioners desire this head of the harbor to be opened through the Haulover, if it can be effected, to connect with the ocean so as to make a harbor of refuge for coasters,

fishermen, and wreckers, and they do not now ask for any expenditure to deepen the passage from Nantucket up to the head of the harbor, which was a considerable item in the estimate made in 1874 for an improvement. Mr. Joseph B. Macy stated that for a harbor of refuge they wanted a depth in the proposed opening of 9 or 10 feet at low-water and not a mere shallow swash opening for small fishing-boats. They think that the new opening may help to increase the depth on the present bar, but they do not count much upon such benefit. They have had assuring opinions from high sources that no injury to the present opening would probably result from the new opening.

The interest in making a harbor of refuge seems to be a genuine one, for the benefit of the general public, in the relations of Nantucket to the important commerce carried on along this part of the coast.

It was stated to me by Mr. Joseph B. Macy that parties engaged as underwriters and otherwise interested would attempt to make the opening at their own expense if they were legally authorized to do so, and that only the question of their right to do it had deterred them from attempting it long ago. In other words, they would back up their confidence in the success of their project by risking their own means.

As it is evidently best to encourage local public spirit, it may be well to consider first what injury might be done by their attempts to carry out their own ideas.

(1.) If their work of digging an opening were rendered of no avail by the filling of the cut by the waves, existing conditions would not be changed.

(2.) If successful, the owners of Coskata farm might object to being cut off from land communication with the town; but they would be benefitted in other ways to probably a greater extent. The highest damages would be the present value of the farm thus cut off.

(3.) It does not seem to me that the Light-House Service on Great Point would be incommodated by a permanent opening through the Haulover, and therefore that public interest may not object. Such trial as the local interests would be willing to make experimentally, if authorized, would in extent probably not be more than digging away the sand down to a depth of 2 feet below low-water to a width at that level of, say, 10 feet, and then rely upon the force of the current to make the necessary widening and deepening.

I have estimated this would require the removal of about 4,000 cubic yards of sand, at 30 cents, making the total cost of \$1,200.

If an appropriation of this amount is made I would advise the letting of the work by contract to the lowest bidder who will undertake to open and maintain an opening for one year, giving a navigable depth of 9 feet at mean low-water from the ocean into the "head of the harbor" through the Haulover.

This will test the matter without any loss to the United States if it fails.

While upon this subject of improving Nantucket Harbor, it is thought best to present the matter somewhat further than the memorialists contemplated, and to consider—

First. The nature of the problem of making and maintaining an entrance 9 feet deep at mean low-water into the head of the harbor through the Haulover.

Second. The effect of such an opening upon the bar at the present entrance.

Third. The prospect of improving the present entrance to Nantucket.

I.—PRACTICABILITY OF MAKING A PERMANENT OPENING THROUGH THE HAULOVER BEACH 9 OR 10 FEET AT MEAN LOW-WATER.

The reasons for success given in the memorial are, "deep water both inside and outside of the proposed cut, not much littoral sand, and a slack-water region for part of the time, the waves of the sea never being as fierce as at other parts of the island shore."

This subject is spoken of by Prof. Henry Mitchell as follows:

The Haulover, which it is proposed to cut through, connects the drift mound, known as Coskata, with the main body of the island, and separates the upper harbor from the ocean. It has always been a portage for fishing-boats, as its name implies, and has nearly the same form and area upon the maps of Des Barres, 1776; William Mitchell, 1838; Coast survey, 1846; and Dr. Ferdinand C. Ewer, 1860.

The distance from rear to front is unusually short, yet I claim that the form is that of a sea-built dike. But even if this barrier be, as Mr. Joseph B. Macy and others, at Nantucket, assume from their examinations, a remaining strip of the original drift, we might still expect its exposed portion to wear the form impressed upon it by the sea; so that I do not give much weight to my own view, which is literally superficial as yet.

In the natural formation of an opening through the littoral cordon of the coast, the waves play only a preliminary part; it is the current which digs the channel. The overleaping waves weaken the dike, but it is by filling the basin behind to overflowing that the breach is made wide and deep,

In cases like Chatham, where the length of exposed beach is in very great ratio to the area of the basin, the latter is very liable to overflow, and inlets are the frequent product of great storms. The Haulover beach, on the contrary, is so short from Coskata to Squam that it does not admit many overleaping seas, and therefore the basin within never perhaps swells to overflowing. The experiment proposed is, therefore, one which nature may never have tried.

The survey of the locality occupying about twelve days in August, 1874, was made by my direction by Assistant H. S. Van Ingen.

From the second paragraph of Mr. Van Ingen's report it appears that the movers at Nantucket, in having that survey made were the same as now, and that their object was the same, to wit, to have an opening made through the Haulover into the head of the harbor, as a refuge for coasters, and incidentally to benefit the present entrance by increase of beneficial effects (hoped for) from the tidal currents.

Mr. Van Ingen says:

It was therefore deemed necessary to make a survey or examination, both of the Haulover beach and of the bars and channel at the present entrance to Nantucket Harbor. This was done in as much detail as the limited appropriation of \$500 would allow, and the map of survey accompanies this report. At the Haulover numerous borings 6 1-2 feet deep on the eastern shore, and 11 feet deep on the west shore, below low-water, were made, and the material found to be almost entirely fine sand; at certain points a thin layer of gravel was encountered on the east side, but no hardpan, as had been thought probable by some persons; this is said to be found about 1-4 of a mile south, near the shore.

I visited all the localities in August, 1874, and again this October, 1879. We sounded out the present entrance this year and examined the Haulover beach. There were no indications of change in any of the conditions at the latter place in the interval of five years, so that the determinations of the survey of the Haulover in 1874 may be accepted as the conditions now existing.

From this survey there can be but little doubt that Professor Mitchell was correct in claiming the Haulover as a sea-built dike, as its form indicated to him it was.

From this fact we make one important conclusion, that the material of this beach will make no more resistance to artificial digging or washing by currents than beach material such as this is, viz. sand, fine and coarse, and at certain points thin layers of gravel, but no hardpan.

The next important feature in the matter of an opening is the motion of the littoral sand along the shore.

There has been a permanence to the general features of the Haulover for a long time, as shown by Professor Mitchell and verified by our surveys and examinations; that is to say, the part covered with beach-grass has altered scarce at all for a long time. This part is about 6 to 8 feet above the level of the foreshore on the ocean side, having been raised by the wind. In front of this, toward the ocean, is what is called the foreshore, or changeable beach. This is ordinarily about 40 feet in width, and is about 6 or 7 feet above ordinary high-water, being determined by the height to which the waves in storms bring the sands. This is about the level of the natural openings through the mud-formed, grass-covered beach, forming sloughs where the hauling over of boats is done. At these low places the high storm-waves occasionally swash through.

The foreshore terminates in a steep sand-slope towards the waves, against which they continually strike, and by attrition and scouring out of fine particles tinge the ocean-water with fine sand, in ordinary times 200 to 250 feet out, or out to the 12-foot curve. If the waves rolled directly against the beach and fell back on the same line, it is evident that no new material would be brought to the shore, and the particles of sand being gradually worn away by this ceaseless attrition of the waves, the beach would disappear.

But the waves do not move in this way, directly on the shore and then back. They generally run oblique to the line of the beach and strike in such way that the impinging end runs along the beach, and all the material to which they impart motion takes a course upward and downward with the wave in the course of its motion, and is thus transported along the shore.

Besides this, there is a tidal current (though in this place not strong) backward and forward, which also gives motion along the shore to all the material which the agitation caused by the waves keeps suspended.

Under these influences the foreshore is frequently changing, now being narrowed down in one place by material removed in excess of that brought to it from another, and at another place (or at another time at this same place by a reversal of conditions) widening by material brought there in excess of that taken away. The width of this foreshore is said to vary thus as much as 60 feet, thus indicating (when we consider the manner of the

over

movement of the sand) a very considerable littoral motion. The conclusion, from the permanence of the grass-covered portion or dune, is, that during the time observed the changes of the foreshore have been so alternating that no perceptible alteration has been made upon it as a whole. But, on the other hand, we cannot give very great age to this permanence of the beach, because if it had a long period the wind would have added greater height to this grassy dune, such as we see elsewhere. Hence, I think we must conclude that there is considerable motion of littoral sand, and that we must accept the probability of this motion, defeating the project of maintaining an opening when once made.

It will be seen that this conclusion is independent of the statement of the memorial that "the waves of the sea never being as fierce as at other parts of the island," for I have only stated actual effects at this place, without considering the magnitude of the cause compared with it elsewhere. It is probably true that in great storms the waves off south shore, where the ocean is much deeper, strike more fiercely upon the shore than they do at the Haulover, where the waves are smaller by reason of the water being shoaler and the protection of the outlying shoals upon which the big waves break.

We come next to consider the question of current through the proposed outlet at the Haulover. The memorial refers to it as "a slackwater region for a large part of the time." This, if I understand it correctly, is a serious difficulty in the way of success; for if at such times the littoral motion of the sand is large, there would be nothing to prevent the material dropping into and remaining in the cut or opening. All experience has shown, as far as I know, that the critical period for openings through beaches is when the water is at the same level on both sides and no head of water to make a current through.

Professor Mitchell says:

In the natural formation of an opening through the littoral cord of the coast, the waves play only a preliminary part; it is the current which digs the channel. The overlapping waves weaken the dike, but it is by filling the basin behind to overflowing that the breach is made wide and deep.

The Haulover beach, on the contrary, is so short from Coskata to Squam that it does not admit many overlapping seas, and therefore the basin within is never filled to overflowing. The experiment proposed is therefore one which nature may never have tried.

I make this quotation, first, to give Professor Mitchell's assertion of the importance of the currents, in which I fully agree. I wish to remark, too, in regard to the quotation, that the "preliminary part" played by the waves in some cases might be their littoral transportation of the sands so as to lower the beach and allow of the waves overlapping. But that they could raise the level inside at the head of the harbor so as to produce an effective current out through the Haulover, while the wide opening between Coatue and Brant Points existed, does not seem probable, so that we may well accept the statement that it is an experiment which nature has never tried.

The data for determining the average tides on each side of the Haulover, their relative heights and times, are but meager. But they are sufficient to show great irregularities, and periods of little difference of elevation on the two sides, with consequent little head to create a current either way.

It appears to me that from the foregoing showing that there is very little reason to believe the experiment will ever succeed. It is with great regret, as far as it disappoints honest expectations, that I am compelled by my honest judgment to say so.

THE EFFECT OF A DEEP ENTRANCE INTO THE HEAD OF THE HARBOR UPON THE DEPTH OF THE PRESENT BAR.

As to the prospect of injury by the experiment, Professor Mitchell says:

There are few cases where a community has less to lose from the failure, or more to gain by the success of the experiment.

The advisory council says:

The experiment at the Haulover is worth an earnest trial, and that some benefit elsewhere but no injury anywhere may be anticipated.

Of course if somebody else besides the community makes the experiment the community will have little to lose by the failure. But I have so prepared the first recommendation of this report that the community which undertakes it shall have the failure at their own expense.

If it is felt that the prospect of making a good and much needed harbor of refuge will justify the experiment, it may be well to try it, but I do not feel sure that if a large opening into the head of the harbor

wide enough and deep enough for vessels drawing 9 feet, were to become permanent it would not result in injury to the present entrance, which is probably a matter of more importance to the community than the proposed harbor of refuge.

I think Professor Mitchell's statement in 1856, that he knew of no reason why Edgartown entrance should be so much better than that of Nantucket other than the influence due to the opening through Cotamy beach, is one that he would not now make, and that no weight should on this account be given to beneficial effect at Nantucket by an opening at the Haulover.

I shall consider the question of differences between Edgartown and Nantucket when I take up the subject of improving the present opening, and consider the matter of sources of supply and movements and deposits of sands around Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

The estimate made by Mr. Van Ingen for attempting a cut through the Haulover was as follows:

To secure a 6-foot deep channel from Nantucket to the beach by dredging 53,081 cubic yards sand and gravel, at 30 cents,	\$10,616.20
Removal of surface sand from beach down to low-water level over a width of 200 feet, by means of scrapers and cars running on tracks east of the proposed cut, so as to dump into the ocean, including cost of track, &c., 27,736 cubic yards, at 30 cents,	8,320.80
Dredging a cut 100 feet wide and 6 feet deep below low-water and dumping the material on one side of the harbor 26,815 cubic yards of sand, at 20 cents	5,363.00
Building for men, animals, and tools, Temporary wharf, 80 feet long,	2,000.00
Jetty, 143 feet long, running out to 9 feet of water, 8 feet high above high-water, of triangular section, slope of 45°, stones to be in blocks of 1-4 to 2 tons in weight, 361 tons, at \$3.50, delivered on the beach,	1,264.50
Transportation across the beach and placing them in jetty,	800.00
Contingencies engineering expenses,	3,735.50
	\$32,000.00

It appears from Mr. Van Ingen's report that the item of \$10,616.20 for making a channel between the head of the harbor and Nantucket was made by request, so that the new entrance might be available to the latter place. It was stated to me recently by citizens of Nantucket that that was not now considered of business importance.

Not feeling any confidence in the result of making an experiment of this expense to the United States, I have thought it best not to make any recommendation in its favor. In the conclusion of my report of November 30, 1874, I said:

There is no project that promises any benefit commensurate with the expense of trying it, &c.

I wish to modify that so far as to recommend an appropriation of \$1,200 to employ the lowest bidder to make experiment at the Haulover, payment being made contingent upon its being maintained at a depth of 9 feet at mean low-water for one year, and also to recommend favorable consideration for the plan of improving the present entrance.

Jan. 22, 1880

MIRROR, NANTUCKET ISLAND, MASS. SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 2, 1944.

THE PASSING YEARS HAVE TAKEN THEIR TOLL FROM THIS GROUP



THE GROUP PICTURE TAKEN AT WAUWINET THIRTY-THREE YEARS AGO.

The death of Henry G. Haddon a few days ago brought to mind incidents of the semi-annual gatherings held by members of the Nantucket Athletic Club and the Commercial Club of Brockton. This picture was taken in the spring of 1911, when the members of the two clubs enjoyed an outing at Wauwinet. The passing years have removed many of those in the group, and the picture makes an interesting study in retrospect. Less than a dozen of those who gathered together thirty-three years ago are still living.

Left to right—Rear row: Ernest H. Jerneagan, Edward B. Hayes, R. T. Fitz-Randolph, Horace Taber, Fred A. Hoyt, W. N. Johnson, Ozro W. Humes, Luke Reynolds, Millard F. Freeborn, James E. Chapel, Louis Coffin, George Taber, F. G. Baldus, A. H. Wilbur, Dr. A. E. Paine, Alderman Churchill, J. Butler Folger, J. C. Burton, Whittemore Gardner, W. R. Beal, Arthur Williams, Edgar L. Chase, William H. Wyer, M. F. Barrett, Lauriston Bunker, C. L. Packard.

Second Row: Henry G. Haddon, J. G. Sheehan, William H. Thayer, Elliot L. Bonney, James Y. Deacon, Mayor H. C. Howard, Herbert G. North, Arthur C. Fish, George Clarence Holmes, Frank L. Crocker, Walter H. Burgess, Dr. C. E. Perkins, Charles M. Park.

On the ground: Sidney V. Fisher, Edward G. Swain, Charles W. Ellis, Zenas W. Lewis, William H. Barrett, G. F. Logue, Dr. A. G. Rand, Harry Turner, Joseph M. Swain, Fred H. Folger, William J. Blair, Fred Willets Folger, Charles C. Hammond, Charles F. Hammond, William H. H. Edward H. Perry, Herbert W. Bennett, Chester W. Weeks, Alexander M. Myrick, Arthur W. Jones.

Wauwinet House Has Murals Of "The Haulover".

"The Haulover" at Wauwinet, once an important section of the island to Nantucket's dory fishermen, has been portrayed in two large murals recently completed by Gerald H. Taber in the dining room of the Wauwinet House hotel.

One mural shows a scene at the haulover in 1897, the year before the heavy storm during which the ocean broke through to the harbor. Fishermen dressed in their yellow oilers and sou'westers are unloading a catch of bluefish, while another group is carrying a dory from the harbor to the ocean. Still another part of the mural shows a horse being used to pull a dory across the short section of beach.

One of Nantucket's now-famous old horse-drawn carts is shown in this scene, which gives an excellent representation of Wauwinet and the industry of dory fishing from the beach as carried on before the turn of the century.

The second mural is of an entirely different tone, showing a summer scene in 1900. Children and adults in costumes of the period are on the beach, while a large cat boat is sailing through the haulover opening. The Wauwinet House may be seen in this painting, and several other buildings as well. Some of the buildings shown have since been removed, while others still stand today.

The theme of the latter painting was taken from a photograph in the possession of Mr. Backus which shows what is believed to be the catboat "Samoseet" going through the opening with Patrick Robinson at the tiller.

Both murals are done in a fresh, pleasing tone and while there was no attempt on the part of Mr. Taber to be either photographic or just representative, the effect achieved is a fascinating picture which at the same time has historic value.

June 4, 1955

Mortgagees' Sale.

To Reuben C. Kenney and Asa W. N. Small, mortgagees, and supposed holders of the equity of redemption; to all attaching creditors, and to all other persons interested, notice is hereby given that

BY virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed given by Reuben C. Kenney and Asa W. N. Small to Edward W. Perry and Elisha Parker, dated Sept. 12, 1877, recorded with Nantucket County Deeds, Livre 64, folios 524, 525, 526, will be sold at public auction, upon the premises, for breach of condition of said mortgage, and for the purpose of foreclosure, on Tuesday, the 4th day of January, A. D. 1881, at 12 o'clock, M.

ALL and singular the real estate described in said mortgage deed, namely: A certain tract of land situate in the division of Squam, in Nantucket, at the Head of the Harbor, at a place called Wauwinet, described as follows: Beginning at a stake and stone in the line of land of T. F. H. Schieffelin and running southerly in the line of land of John B. Tibbits to another stake and stone marking the bound of land conveyed by said Small to Charles A. Kenney; thence westerly in the line of said Charles A. Kenney's land to the shore; thence northerly by the shore to a stake and stone in the line of said Schieffelin's land; thence easterly by said Schieffelin's land to the point of beginning; containing about two acres, more or less, being all the land conveyed to said Small by deeds of Elijah Luce, recorded with Nantucket County Deeds, Livre 63, folios 55, 56, and 283, 284, excepting that portion conveyed to Charles A. Kenney (Livre 64, folio 221). Together with the Hotel known as the Wauwinet House, and all other buildings thereon standing; also, the landing, wharf, or pier, and any and all improvements made by the said Kenney & Small on said property. Terms made known at time of sale.

EDWARD W. PERRY, } Mortgagees.
ELISHA PARKER, }
Nantucket, Dec. 9, 1880. d11-3t

For Sale.

THE WAUWINET HOUSE,



AT THE HAULOVER,
head of the harbor, is for sale. For terms
and particulars apply to
A. W. N. SMALL,
Wauwinet House.

1882



FOR RENT—At Wauwinet, Nantucket, Mass., "GOOD LUCK," a fully furnished cottage, 8 rooms (4 or 5 bedrooms) linen, plate, etc. Complete kitchen arrangements. Unusual regard to minor comforts, as well as to essential points. Soft and hard water. Place affords easy facilities for house-keeping. House situated on Surf beach, commands view southeast, east, north and west. Surf and still water bathing, boating, fishing, shooting and driving. Post twice daily, wires to mainland. Climate positive aid in cure of malaria, hay fever, insomnia, and general debility. Equable temperature. For further information apply to

BASSETT JONES,
49 Broadway, N. Y.
or HOWARD SARGENT,
68 Devonshire St., Boston.

1884

FOR SALE.

HOTEL on Nantucket for sale or to lease. The Wauwinet House at the Head of the Harbor. The very best paying hotel property on the island. Present proprietor has other business, and will sell or lease on favorable terms. Address,
W. M. F. ROUND,
Nantucket.

1884



FOR RENT—At Wauwinet, Nantucket, Mass., "GOOD LUCK," a fully furnished cottage, 8 rooms (4 or 5 bedrooms) linen, plate, etc. Complete kitchen arrangements. Unusual regard to minor comforts, as well as to essential points. Soft and hard water. Place affords easy facilities for house-keeping. House situated on Surf beach, commands view southeast, east, north and west. Surf and still water bathing, boating, fishing, shooting and driving. Post twice daily, wires to mainland. Climate positive aid in cure of malaria, hay fever, insomnia, and general debility. Equable temperature. For further information apply to

BASSETT JONES,
49 Broadway, N. Y.
or HOWARD SARGENT,
68 Devonshire St., Boston.

1888

IMPROVEMENTS AT WAUWINET.—We are informed by one of the parties interested in the purchase of the Wauwinet House property, that improvements of considerable extent are contemplated, which will make this pleasant resort a success. Negotiations are in progress for the purchase of a side-wheel steamer of light draught of water, with accommodations for about two hundred people, to ply between town and the head of the harbor. Mr. A. W. N. Small will conduct the house the present season. As all arrangements are not yet perfected, we are unable to acquaint our readers with all facts in connection with the plans under consideration by the present owners, which, however, will be duly made known.

Apr. 22, 1882

THE WAUWINET HOUSE, NANTUCKET.

(HEAD OF THE HARBOR.)

OPEN FOR BOARDERS JUNE 20th, 1882.

THE Wauwinet House has been much improved during the past year, the bed-rooms have been remodeled and refurnished, a new dining room for regular boarders has been arranged, and the place has been rendered thoroughly comfortable in all respects.

AT WAUWINET

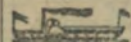
there is a sea breeze which ever way the wind blows. There is both surf bathing and still water bathing. It is a perfectly safe place for children, and the healthiest place on the island for invalids, and the most restful place for those who are tired out.

As the hotel accommodations include but a small number of rooms, arrangements for board should be made at once. Address,

A. W. N. SMALL, Manager,
Nantucket, Mass.

1882

STEAM YACHT "WAUWINET,"



CAPT. R. C. KENNEY, will commence trips to and from the Wauwinet House, Head of the Harbor, Thursday, June 20th, running in connection with yacht Lillian. Will leave landing at Steamboat wharf at 9.30, A. M., and 2.30, P. M. Leave Wauwinet at 10.45, A. M., and 4.30, P. M.

Vessels towed in and out of the harbor, or from dock to dock, between the hours of regular trips. Orders left with the Captain on board, or at the restaurant on Steamboat wharf, will meet with prompt attention.

R. C. KENNEY,
Master.

1878

Wauwinet House,

HEAD OF THE HARBOR,



Nantucket, Mass.

THE only place where a shore dinner can be procured. Accommodations for a few boarders. Apply to
WILLIAM B. GARDNER,
Proprietor.

1883

WAUWINET HOUSE,

AT THE HAULOVER,



WILL be open on and after June 20th for the season. Excellent accommodations for lodgers.
A. W. N. SMALL,
Proprietor.

1881

WUAWINET HOUSE,

A. W. N. SMALL, PROR'R,

HAULOVER, Nantucket, Mass. Opened June 15th. Lobsters, Bluefish, Clams, etc., served in all the various styles. Steam and sailing yachts run between town and the house daily from Steamboat wharf.
Jel2-3m

Wauwinet Cottages.

FURNISHED Cottages at Wauwinet to rent. One of seven rooms, open fire-place, wide piazzas; others smaller. ALMON T. MOWRY, Ag't., Nantucket.

1885

CARD OF THANKS.

I WISH to tender my sincere thanks to the strangers who visit our island, and also to the citizens of Nantucket, who have so kindly patronized my boat during the twelve years I have run to Wauwinet. I wish to say, also, I have had a new Lillian built expressly for the Wauwinet route, and hope I may still receive a fair share of their patronage.
Jel6-1t

C. E. SMALLEY.

1888

WAUWINET HOUSE SOLD.—Josiah Freeman, Esq., has sold to Mr. W. F. Kidder the Wauwinet House property, which will be put in first-class condition for the entertainment of summer guests.

1890

WAUWINET.—The rush of visitors at this favorite watering-place is over for the season, although the Wauwinet and Sea Foam houses are still open and ready to cater to any company who may call. The Island Belle closes her regular trips for the season, to-day, and will only run when a company offers, and Capt. Smalley, of the Lillian, will continue to run his regular trips at present if he has passengers. The latter gentleman has our thanks for the many favors shown us the past season.

Sept. 15, 1887

There was quite a large attendance at the mortgagees' sale of the Wauwinet House property, last Tuesday. Mrs. A. W. N. Small was the purchaser, the price paid being \$1700.

1881

FOR SALE.

HOTEL on Nantucket for sale or to lease. The Wauwinet House at the Head of the Harbor. The very best paying hotel property on the island. Present proprietor has other business, and will sell or lease on favorable terms. Address,
W. M. F. ROUND,
Nantucket.

s16-tf

1883

For Sale or To Let.



THE SEA FOAM HOUSE, situated at the Head of the Harbor, with three acres of land adjoining, is offered for sale. Terms easy. If not sold by the middle of June, the house will be let on reasonable terms, either furnished or unfurnished. Apply to
S. B. HOWES,
or WM. T. SWAIN.

apl7-tf

1880

1880

SHORE RESORT.—A week or two since made mention that Capt. William S. Chwick had sold a piece of land at the H of the Harbor to a party in town, who proposed to erect a hotel, or restaurant thereon. We are now enabled to state it as a fact. Mr. Sylvanus B. Howes is the party in question. He will erect a building on the land, 36x40 feet, the lower part of which will be used as a dining hall, and the upper floor will be fitted with a parlor and several sleeping apartments. A pier will be run out from the shore for the landing of parties in boats. Mr. Howes, who is recognized as a superior cook, will give his personal attention to the culinary part of the work at his house.

Work on the structure will probably be commenced some time next week, by M. Charles H. Robinson, though no great amount can be done until lumber is received (Capt. Swain having gone abroad for the purpose of purchasing a cargo), when the work will be pushed forward rapidly. The building will be situated on the piece of land at the east, and adjoining that upon which the Wauwinet House stands, and will front the harbor. We wish the projector success for his enterprise.

At the "Haulover."

The cut through "Haulover" beach is a subject in which everybody interested in the island is eager to know about. From a point on the ocean front, directly opposite Wauwinet settlement, to Coskata Head, the bluff of sand hills has been levelled, and only a low, clean beach a few hundred feet in width remains to separate ocean from harbor. One or two of the summer residences nearest Wauwinet, occupying sites on the bluff, give unmistakable evidence of the tremendous power of the sea. The waters must have struck their fronts with awful force, as the shingles were torn off as though the work of demolition had been commenced by human hands. Light lattice-work had been torn away and carried well up towards the Wauwinet House. The site where the "Bungalow" stood (the building was taken down just previous to the storm) is to be seen back of the surf line at low water. Changes at the opening are constantly going on. The measurements given herewith are entirely from estimate, but we believe them to be conservative. Across the mouth, on the ocean side, between the extreme points of the curved beaches, the width is half a mile; and at the narrowest part (on the harbor side), not less than 450 feet (recent measurement gave this result). The tide rushes through at times with tremendous velocity.

The cable laid across the opening by the life-saving service recently, to re-establish telephonic communication with Coskata station, is swayed by the rushing waters, and it would appear, from casual observation, that it cannot long withstand the strain to which it will certainly be subjected as the grasses and mosses gather about it and form a larger surface for the tides to act against.

As viewed from the distance, it appears that the beach on the north side of the opening is nearly perpendicular, giving the impression that the cutting away was more rapid there than on the Wauwinet side.

To those who were familiar with the "lay of the land" prior to the inroads of the ocean, the changes in the appearance of that section are truly wonderful.—[Inquirer and Mirror.]

Apr. 15, 1897

Bassett Jones Presents Article Regarding Coatue "Opening."

Editor of *The Inquirer and Mirror*:

After years of study of the conditions that gave Nantucket Harbor its present form and of the changes in the harbor, both historic and present, my brother, the late William F. Jones, then Associate Professor of Geology at M. I. T., wrote an illustrated report with recommendations. That report was published serially in your paper. I lent a copy to the Finance Committee in 1947.

The result of my brother's analysis of the history and form of the harbor was obvious to those able to comprehend. I recall the eminent geologist Dr. Lawrence McK. Gould, now President of Carleton College, together with my brother and myself, standing on Pocomo Head while my brother discussed the harbor conditions and pointed out its salient features as he explained the reasons for their form, such as the succession of cuspid points on the harbor side of Coatue.

Dr. Gould remarked that the evidence was so obvious that it was strange no geologist had hitherto recognized what had happened during the past centuries—even millenniums—and what was likely to happen if certain precautions the report suggested were not taken. Dr. Gould, my brother and I carried out certain excavations so that the doctor could see for himself what lay beneath the beaches, the salt marshes and Coatue.

As my brother pointed out, the several geologists who had previously written about Nantucket reported conclusions drawn from inadequate data. None had carried out any detail surveys, made the excavations necessary to inform themselves as to old harbor bottoms, old beaches and wave cut shelves now covered over. Nor had any such geologists made accurate measurements over a number of years of changes now going on, including beaches and harbor bottom, cliff erosion and the like. Lacking such detail information any statement about the form of the harbor and its conditions is a pure guess.

Before any attempt is made to cut a new opening through Coatue, my brother's report should be studied by those responsible. That report offers at least one suggestion as to how water from the Chord of the Bay can be safely and permanently introduced into the head of the harbor at a cost less than that required to dredge an opening through Coatue at Chatham Bend to bottom level, to build the required outside jetties and to do the necessary rip-rapping if the opening is not to at once start moving west (not east) and soon close up against the wider land area back of Bass Point. The movement will be to the west because the sand movement along the outer Coatue shore is to the west.

Personally, I shall be interested to see an opening cut through Coatue whether jettied and rip-rapped or not. This because the result will prove whether my brother's forecast of subsequent events is or is not correct. He forecast the ultimate closing of the opening round Brant Point, which closing would be accelerated well beyond its present rate if a new opening was made anywhere else, but sooner if such opening was made through Coatue, whether made by nature or by man.

I added the words "by nature" because, as my brother observed and recorded by measurements, nature is now at work cutting an opening through Coatue between Five Fingered Point and Bass Point opposite Pocomo Head. She is doing the job at the rate of 5 feet a year, depositing the excavated sand off Bass Point so that today at low tide Bass Point shoal is dry for a considerable distance off the point.

My brother proposed the Harbor beach between 5-Fingered and Bass point be rip-rapped to stop this movement to prevent nature's ultimate disastrous cutting of this opening.

Possibly the older advocates of cutting an opening at Chatham Bend will remember what happened to the opening round Brant point when nature herself cut an opening through the Haulover at Wauwinet. During the 10 years that opening lasted an enormous amount of sand fill was deposited off First Point, leaving but a narrow dredged channel close in shore at Brant Point. It will require but a relatively small increase in the rate at which sand is now moving west over and through the east jetty, together with a slowing down of the scouring action of the tide in the harbor entrance because a new opening develops elsewhere or is made, to bring about closing of the present entrance.

That would be an interesting thing to watch so I say by all means go ahead and cut an opening through Coatue at Chatham Bend!

Nature is at work in another direction with the evident intention of re-

teating her Haulover beach experiment of the 1890s. The erosion of Squam Head is now proceeding at a rate faster than at any time since 1928. Anyone standing on the ocean beach at Squam, and looking north, can see why this is so. Now Squam Head projects into the ocean, giving nature's chisels, the breakers, a first-class chance at the clay and fill of which the Head is composed.

In time, possibly during my remaining years, that erosion will have reached the point where, as in 1892 or thereabout, the whole eastern shore of the island from Sankaty to Great Point will again become unstable. Then the shore re-adjusted itself after retreating some 1200 feet to the west when the Haulover opening closed up against the harder land of Coskata.

Before his death, my brother said that within 25 years he expected to see that readjustment repeated but with much more serious consequences. At the time he proposed that some attempt be made to halt the erosion of Squam Head, the bulwark of the eastern shore of the Island.

It may be of interest that considerable evidence points to a previous break-through at what later became the Haulover beach. This previous break occurred many years ago—before the island was settled by white people, though subsequent to the formation of Coatue about 2,000 to 3,000 years ago. Incidentally, Coatue is a prograded off-shore bar built on a hard platform of clay and gravel. First Point is the only part of Coatue that is a sand-spit.

Yours,
Bassett Jones.

A Valuable Report by a Son of Louis Agassiz.

THE GULF STREAM NEAR NANTUCKET. PROF. HENRY MITCHELL, LIEUT. S. M. ACKLEY, ECHINODERMS AND DEEP SEA-FISHES.

Mr. Editor:

The interest which very naturally was felt by me in the Coast Survey, (with which my dear father, the late Capt. George W. Coffin, was for thirteen years connected as an observer under the direction, in part, of Prof. Henry Mitchell) has led me to read the two large octavo volumes in which Alexander Agassiz tells of his experiences during three cruises in the Gulf of Mexico, in the Caribbean sea, and along the Atlantic Coast of the United States, from 1877 to 1880. This "contribution to American Thalassography" as the author calls it, is entitled, "Three Cruises of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey Steamer 'Blake,' &c.," and is published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., of Boston, and is admirably printed, and finely illustrated, with representations of the fauna of the regions explored, and the apparatus used for deep sea-dredging.

The very first sentence of the introduction attracted my attention, by its mention of my native isle. The author says, "My connection with the thalassographic work of the Coast Survey dates back to 1849, when, as a boy, I accompanied Professor Agassiz in his cruise on the 'Bibb' off Nantucket." Afterward (on page 180, vol. I.) the island is mentioned as he speaks of floating barnacles and other "surface animals" as "excellent guides to the course of the Gulf Stream,—natural current bottles, as it were," and adds, "They are thrown up along the whole length of the Atlantic coast of the United States, from the Straits of Florida to the south shores of Cape Cod and Nantucket." Suffer me to quote page 252 of vol. I, as there is much in it to interest your readers, in my opinion. "The first scientific basis for the exploration of the Gulf Stream was undoubtedly due to Franklin. At the time he was Postmaster-General of the Colonies, his attention was called to the fact that the royal mail packets made much longer passages to and from Europe than the trading vessels of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. On talking the matter over with captain Folger, of Nantucket, he first learned the existence of a strong current, of which the New England captains took advantage in going to Europe, and which they avoided by sailing a northerly course on the home voyage. Folger also called Franklin's attention to the fact that this current was a warm one. He and Dr. Blagden becoming interested in the question, Franklin set out to ascertain the size of the current and its temperature. Soon after, Franklin published the first chart of the Gulf Stream for the benefit of navigators, from information obtained from Nantucket whalers, who were extremely familiar with the Gulf Stream, its course, strength and extent. From the time of Franklin until the problem of the Gulf Stream was again attacked, in 1845, by Franklin's descendant, Prof. A. D. Bache, of the United States Coast Survey, many ingenious theories were published, but nothing was added to our knowledge of the origin and structure of the Gulf Stream. Humboldt, Arago, and others attempted to trace in the Gulf Stream a secondary effect of the trade winds, and of the rotation of the earth. The officers of Arctic expeditions sent to Spitzbergen did not fail to see the effect of a mass of warm water passing northward, and Von Baer was among the first to consider this body of water as an eastern extension of the Gulf Stream. Meanwhile the Arctic explorers of Baffin's Bay and Western Greenland found themselves baffled in their efforts to reach high latitudes by the powerful southerly current, carrying with it fields of ice or huge icebergs, which had found their way south below the southern limits of the Banks of Newfoundland, and even beyond the latitude of Cape Cod and Nantucket shoals. The earlier work of the Coast Survey in its investigations into the structure of the Gulf Stream (1845 to 1860) consisted in making sections across the stream, from the Straits of Bimini as far north as the latitude of Nantucket."

On page 232 the author speaks of the fact that Prof. Henry Mitchell, in 1867, "conclusively proved that the current of the Gulf Stream extended to the bottom in the section between Havana and Key West." Opposite page 252 is given Franklin's chart of the Gulf Stream, wherein it is seen plainly that Nantucket Island is the nearest land to the warm river or current till it reaches South Carolina or even the coast of Florida. No wonder that the climate of Nantucket is so excellent for invalids, even in winter.

I have been interested to note in this valuable book the mention of Nantucket men who have done good service in the field of science. Prof. Mitchell is mentioned several times. On page 235 a note says, "Henry Mitchell looks upon the Nicholas and Sautaren Channels, as well as the Providence and Exuma, not as channels proper, worn by currents, but as portions of the ocean bed left undisturbed in the upheaval of the Bahamas. These channels are motionless masses of water, in which the decline of temperature with the depth is a little more rapid than in the track of the Gulf Stream. Mitchell also considers that the current of the Gulf Stream has had no share in cutting out the Straits of Florida." In the introduction the author speaks of the suggestions and criticisms of the commanders—Lieut. Seth M. Ackley among them—as valuable, and says "they constantly modified our methods of work, and gradually changed our apparatus to such an extent that it would have been difficult to recognize the original dredging implements as first devised." The author also gives deserved credit to Lieut. Ackley in these words: "At New Orleans Mr. Garman and I left the 'Blake,'

an event which must have been a relief to the officers, more particularly to the executive officer, Lieut. Ackley, who was once more free to put the ship in an orderly condition. The work of dredging is not conducive to cleanliness, and during the whole time I was on board no routine was ever allowed to interfere with our work, Lieut. Ackley himself always being the first to see that everything was in readiness for dredging operations at all times." And on page 32 the author says: "The uniform success which attended all our hauls was undoubtedly due not only to the improvements suggested in the apparatus by Lieut. Commander Sirsbee, by Lieut. Commanding Ackley, by Lieut. Shaler, and by Messrs. Jacoby and Moore, but also to the great care taken by the officer of the deck in handling the 'Blake' during the process of a haul. With a vessel of the size of the 'Blake' excellent judgment was necessary while working in a seaway, and that we incurred so few accidents is entirely due to the interest taken in the expedition by the officers, and the devices constantly suggested by them for overcoming the difficulties we encountered in this novel work."

For my part I am proud of the deserved favorable mention of every Nantucketer, male or female, and when I read a good word of any of them, I feel a desire to share it with others of my townspeople who have like pride in the ability and success of their contemporaries. Prof. Mitchell and Lieut. Ackley have nobly earned the respectful mention which is theirs in scientific circles.

The second volume of this important work treats largely of West Indian fauna and deep-sea types. It is profusely illustrated, showing varieties of fishes, sea-urchins, star-fishes and the like. On page 23 I find this paragraph, which states that "many fishes also descend to considerable depths. In fact, the migration of our coast fishes is one of the most important problems which the fisherman has to solve and one of which we as yet know but little. There seems to be no serious obstacle to extensive bathymetric movements on the part of fishes. The silver hake, which is abundant all summer long at the surface on the New England coast, has been taken from 487 fathoms, and appears to live in September and October at considerable depths off Southern New England. There is reason to believe that the mackerel, menhaden and the bluefish also go down below the hundred-fathom line in winter."

I hope a copy of this fine report by Alexander Agassiz will find its way into the Athenaeum library, as it is valuable for reference. Those who study conchology and biology will find its pages "profitable for instruction," and those who keep the visits of Prof. Louis Agassiz to Nantucket during former years, still in pleasant memory, will give a generous welcome to this book from the pen of his son.

P. A. H.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.

Mar. 13 1948

Nantucket Island Tides.

When in Boston recently we stopped into the office of the Coast and Geodetic Survey and obtained information about the difference in tides on Nantucket Island, according to the deductions recently made by the survey steamers.

The computations are based on Boston as the "reference station" with the exception of the south side of Smiths Point and the Radio Compass station at Surfside at which places the tidal differences are applied to Newport as the "reference station".

Upon the basis of tidal changes, Nantucket is credited with a rise of 3 feet in the harbor on the mean range of tides, and 3.6 feet on the spring run of tides. At Siasconset and Tom Nevers head the rise is but 1.2 feet; at Wauwinet (outer shore) 3.3 feet; at Tuckernuck 2.6 feet.

In computing the time of high tide at Nantucket, the following changes should be made:

Boston as Reference Station.

Tom Nevers Head, minus 1 hour 10 minutes.

Siasconset, add 15 minutes.

Wauwinet (outer shore), add 1 hour.

Great Point, add 35 minutes.

Nantucket harbor, add 50 minutes.

Eel Point, add 5 minutes.

Tuckernuck island, east pond, add 35 minutes.

Muskeget, west side, add 10 minutes.

Newport as Reference Station.

Smith Point, south side, add 30 minutes.

Radio Compass station, Surfside, add 40 minutes.

Dec. 3, 1939

The First.

Capt. Charles G. Coffin, of catboat Inez, is the first of our boatmen to venture through the opening at the Haulover. On Tuesday he made the trip, sounding along as he went, and reports the depth of water from 20 to 6 feet. In the opening he said the deepest water was near the Wauwinet side. The bar off the mouth (the remnant of the old beach) is a sand bar not more than thirty feet in width at the widest point, with a depth of six feet over it at low water. Soundings made on Bass shoal (off Pocomo) showed no perceptible change in the depth of water there, and we are told that on the bar and flats off the Brant point shores, there appears no material change. Capt. Coffin stated that his observation led him to believe that the incoming tide through the Haulover opening lost its force on reaching the harbor, spreading its momentum over such an area as to entirely lose its power, and did not consider that the loose sands were being washed into the harbor to form shoals, as the normal depth of the upper harbor remained the same. It appeared that the tides scour was gradually increasing the depth of water in the opening proper, and Capt. Coffin remarked that on the day he made the trip, the three-masted schooner Abel W. Parker could easily and safely have sailed from the harbor to the ocean. It would appear from this investigation that the opening is likely to be of great advantage to our fishermen.

Apr. 17, 1897

The Jetty.

Work Upon it to be Commenced About April 10--A Few Facts from an Official Source.

Mr. James F. Cobb, of Boston, sends us the following facts concerning the work on the proposed jetty at the entrance to Nantucket harbor. As Mr. Cobb is in the employ of Mr. F. K. Ballou, the contractor, the information can be relied upon as official. He says work on the jetty will be commenced on or about the 10th of April, and prosecuted with vigor until the amount to be done on the first contract is completed. Mr. James Scully, who has contracted with Gen. Warren to furnish the stone and build the jetty, has made a contract with Mr. F. K. Ballou, of Boston, to transport the stone from Groton to Nantucket, and put the same in place. Mr. Ballou will be assisted by Capt. I. A. Sylvester, of Boston, who will superintend the work at Nantucket in the absence of Mr. Ballou, the latter being at present engaged in building an extensive breakwater in Stonington Harbor, Conn., for the U. S. Government. They have arranged to have two large barges, drawing about six feet of water when loaded, one of which will carry 300 tons, the other 250 tons, and both will be towed at the same time by a powerful tugboat, from Groton, Conn., to Nantucket and back. They have also a small tug, which is to be used inside of the bar in towing the barges to place, and for such other work as can be performed by her. Mr. Ballou and Capt. Sylvester expect to be at Nantucket on the 28th inst., and with Gen. Warren's Assistant-Engineer, will make the arrangements for commencing the work at once.

March 26, 1881

The Jetty.

Arrival of the First Invoice of Stone, and Commencement of Operations.

Early Sunday morning the approach of the first tow of barges with stone for the Jetty was announced by Clark, who with characteristic earnestness promenaded the streets, carrying an ensign, and proclaimed (as lustily as he dared on the Sabbath) the fact to the people. The small tug A. H. Glover left the tow off Tuckernuck shoals, and came directly to the wharf, where she was taken charge of by Capt. William Fitzgerald, who will command her. The Indian anchored the barges outside of the bar, and then came in to the wharf. The wind, which had increased from early in the morning, had by this time developed into a gale, and fears were entertained for the safety of the barges. The small tug was sent to their assistance, but it was deemed imprudent to attempt to tow them in with her, and as the tide was ebbing, the Indian could not put out. The barges rode out the gale safely, and the following day were towed to the wharf, where many people visited them.

On Monday, Mr. F. K. Ballou, the contractor, and Mr. James F. Cobb, arrived from Boston, and on Tuesday saw operations commenced. One barge was towed out after mooring-stones and buoys had been placed, and at 9.20 o'clock the first stone of the jetty was dropped into the water upon the outer bar. As her cargo was depleted she was towed well in toward the shore, where the remainder of it was dumped, and then brought in to the wharf, where a portion of the cargo of the other barge was transferred to her, and both were towed out again and the stone deposited, after which the Indian took them in tow for Groton for more.

Capt. Cotton, Gen. Tom's assistant engineer, under whose supervision the work was commenced, expressed himself decidedly pleased with the success attending the beginning of operations. He will see the work fairly started, and then appoint an inspector to further superintend the labor.

Apr. 30, 1881

Mr. Ballou stated that the barges would probably return this week, and after that, with favorable weather, two round trips per week would be made. Capt. Cotton will commence the end of the jetty on the beach, in which labor he expects to employ people from among our citizens.

We regret exceedingly our inability to accept the kind invitation of Mr. Cobb to be present at the dumping of the first stone, but our labors were such at the time as to render it impossible. We extend him thanks, however, for the information he has so kindly furnished us relative to the matter.

Apr. 30, 1881

Here and There.

Now raise your shouts and hoist the flag, we'll have a celebration,
The President has signed the bill for that appropriation;
The Waterworks and Railroad, too, are matters small and petty,—
We've something better now to do, we're going to have a—jetty!

Jetty! Jetty!

We're going to have a jetty!

They talked of this in days lang syne, and called it a "Breakwater,"

But now to us 'tis plain, they didn't call it what they oughter;

They dragged their big ships o'er the bar to hunt for spermaceti,

But now that business is all gone, we're going to have a—jetty!

Jetty! Jetty!

We're going to have a jetty!

For many years the job has been a standing butt for jokers,

But now, since Hayes has signed the bill, we'll have it spite of croakers;

A few there are to grumble yet, with tempers soured and fretty,

And still to say, "I don't believe we'll ever have a jetty!"

Jetty! Jetty!

We'll never have a jetty!

Time and money wasted on the bar in vain attempts to dig it,

But the jetty'll cut a channel deep enough to float a frigate.

Two ladies just went past our door, they both were young and pretty,

We heard one to the other say, "We're going to have a jetty,"

Jetty! Jetty!

We're going to have a jetty!

There are workmen waiting now to earn that fifty thousand dollars,

Clark grows enthusiastic as through the street he hollers;

Girls, too, are interested, and Susy calls to Betty,

"There's a fancy ball this evening—we're going to have a jetty!"

Jetty! Jetty!

We're going to have a jetty!

Come all you summer travellers, seeking rest and recreation,

Run down to old Nantucket and enjoy a long vacation;

Leave the cities where the atmosphere is close, and hot, and sweaty,

Come take part in our rejoicing, for we're going to have a—jetty!

Jetty! Jetty!

We're going to have a jetty!

JUNE 19, 1880.



The New Wauwinet House—from the architect's sketch.

Unspoiled Wauwinet.

Once upon a time, according to the Legend set down in Mrs. Folger's "Glacier's Gift," there lived on the Atlantic coast a giant who used Cape Cod for his bed. One night, being restless, he tossed from side to side till his moccasins were filled with sand. This so enraged him that, on rising in the morning, he flung the offending moccasins from his feet. One alighted on the sea to form Martha's Vineyard, and the other became the famous Island of Nantucket.

There must have been a special enchantment in the sand that ran from the toe of the giant's moccasin when Nantucket was made! This is the sand that curves so beautifully to make the quiet Harbor Head—the sand that bears so staunchly the beat of the Atlantic surf—the sand that for many years has borne the name of the wise seventeenth century Sachem Wauwinet.

Enchantment lives still in Wauwinet. There, in the little cluster of its buildings, are all the elements of happy summer living—happy living and peace.

A great activity has been stirring in Wauwinet this spring. The results of it have but enhanced the chances for good living there. Wauwinet is still unspoiled.

From the admirable plans of Alfred F. Shurrocks a crew of workers have re-constructed the old Wauwinet House. The House, grown to three floors, has ample room for sixty guests, and each guest chamber has

a full view of the harbor, or ocean, or moor. There is a new great Living room with soft-toned walls; a newly appointed Dining Hall; a new Casino with dancing floor and stage; a new Kitchen with new and powerful stoves. The bedrooms have lavatories with hot and cold water, and the most comfortable of comfortable beds. The House is simple still, but gracious, and adequate as a Country Inn with modern comforts and provisionings. The place has a new dignity, but it is still unpretentious. It is still unspoiled.

And there in Wauwinet is still the chance for some of the best bathing to be found on the New England coast: One may bathe in the warm waters of the harbor, or go surf-bathing on the ocean beach. There, too, are still the casual boats for sailing and fishing; there is the not-too-smart tennis court; and, for the children, there is still the simple paradise of hay-mows, cow-barns, and the sprangling ducks.

The cottages belonging to the Inn are being refurbished, but they, too, retain their casual air. Their chimneys still twist with the unaccountable vagary a by-gone mason gave.

Good food for the House will be provided by an excellent chef-steward, and already the best of good water is flowing from newly-driven Artesian wells.

The story of the digging of the new wells brings us back to Legend. During the excavation work for the construction of one of the new buildings, the diggers came upon a skull and

some body bones. Local ethnologists think the bones are the remains of an Indian woman. Fancy wonders if this body—buried well above the encroachment of the tides—might not be the body of Wonoma, the gentle daughter of Wauwinet, who brought to reconciliation her father and her lover, the young and rival sachem, Autopsot. At any rate, the peace sought long ago by her is even now the outstanding note in the air of Wauwinet. Has not Masefield somewhere written?:

"Wherever beauty has been quick in clay
Some effluence of it lives, a spirit dwells—
Beauty that death can never take away."

In 1911, The Inquirer and Mirror republished the "Legend of Wauwinet", as set forth in the verse of Charlotte Baxter. In the last passage of the homely poem there come these lines from the Chief Wauwinet:

....."Oh, my son, Autopsot;
Great has been the lesson taught me,
That I, myself, am not almighty—
That there is a power beyond me,
Unto which I have to yield me.
Great the love I bear Wonoma,
And if she so truly loves you,
There should only be between us
Words and thoughts that are most friendly."

Human nature is human nature, and no doubt there will be some who will not find complete satisfaction in the arrangements of the new hostel, but for many hot and weary visitors from the mainland there will be in the renovated Inn much pleasure and refreshment and peace—unspoiled.

Bassett Jones, a man who has been identified with the promotion of Wauwinet for many years, died at his home in New York city on March 23d, having been in failing health for a number of years. He was the son of the late William Jones, of Cardiff, South Wales, G. B., was in his sixtieth year, and is survived by a widow and five sons.

Mr. Jones has been intimately connected with Nantucket for some time, and with his family, has passed many summers at his Wauwinet cottage, gaining a wide acquaintance among the colony there and among the residents of the island. He was an architect of considerable fame, and was an ardent lover of nature, the attractive growth of evergreens on his Wauwinet estate being a mark of his devotion to the improvement and prosperity of that locality.

Apr. 2, 1915

Petition For Rural Delivery For Nantucket.

A petition is being circulated requesting the Postoffice Department to establish a rural delivery from Nantucket through Monomoy, Polpis, Wauwinet, Squam, Quidnet and Sankaty. This covers a territory that has grown very rapidly in the last few years and is deserving of very favorable consideration.

The north section of 'Sconset has shown a very rapid growth and should be considered in this improvement in mail service; in fact, with the changes to be made at the 'Sconset office, possibly the whole arrangement of postal service could be improved on.

'Sconset is no longer a fishing village and is now one of the most important summer resorts along the coast, and should have the best of everything.

Apr. 21, 1928

WAUWINET.—A few weeks and all will be over with Wauwinet; when it will be left to its calm repose until next season. The cottages and the hotel are gradually being deserted, and will soon be left to brave the winter's winds and storms until spring. Interest in Wauwinet is surely and steadily increasing year by year. All the cottages have been occupied this season, and the Wauwinet House has had all it could accommodate, with always several inquiries for rooms on hand. This certainly does not look like a decrease. Thousands have visited this little quiet place during the season and scarcely a day has passed since July 1st that there have not been at least five boats at the wharf from town, and as many carriages from 'Sconset and elsewhere. It is estimated that fully 5000 people have been there, who have simply staid a few hours, fully 3500 of whom have been served with shore dinners at the Wauwinet House; and it is to be hoped that it will not be very many years before several cottages will be erected on the choice land on the Haulover, which can now be bought at very reasonable prices.

The following named parties have occupied cottages at Wauwinet during the summer:

THE BUNGALOW.—Mr. and Mrs. W. M. F. Round and Joseph Fisher, of New York; Mrs. E. E. Thomas, Miss S. B. Thomas, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

BEACHCOT.—Mrs. W. H. Sturdevant and family, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

WINKELHUT.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Gray and family, of Walpole, Mass.

STARCOTE.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Burdett and family, of Chicago.

THE WRECK.—Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and family, of Albany, during July, and Mr. and Mrs. Griswold and family, of Albany, N. Y., during August.

GOOD LUCK.—Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Wiles and family, and Miss Byington, of Albany, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Bassett Jones and family, of New York, have occupied their cottage.

MAY 26, 1934

WAUWINET.

Probably there was never an ascension of so large a kite as at Wauwinet on Monday afternoon last. What is said to be the largest kite ever made in this country, "The Excelsior," was raised before a steady north wind until the end of 600 yards of stout cod line was reached, when it was anchored to a convenient post, to be admired by both young and old. The kite is 19 feet high, with a cross-beam of 9½ feet, the whole covered with a stout red cloth. The frame-work was put together by Messrs. Robert, Oscar, and Stanton Smith, who are stopping at the Wauwinet House, under the supervision of Mr. Joseph Hawes, and covered and completed by the Misses Mabel and

Bertha Wiles and Miss Byington, of "Good Luck Cottage." The largest kite ever reported being made, was one in Chicago, 18 feet high, and one in Astoria, Long Island, 15 feet high, so Wauwinet should claim the honors.

But the kite has not been the only thing worthy of note. Fully two hundred people visited Wauwinet on Monday, one hundred and thirty of whom enjoyed a good dinner (which was served by Norcross Brothers), and departed in the afternoon, appearing as though they had enjoyed their day's trip.

The arrivals for the week have been Mr. Edward Ketchum and family, of New York, and Mrs. Fosburgh and family, of St. Louis, Mo.

Aug 13 1887

Wauwinet of The Sea Winds.

The following article appeared in the "Hotel and Restaurant News" of August 25th. It is a very good description of Wauwinet:

*"Where the winds of the sea blow gaily
And playfully kiss the land."*

To live with sea winds is to have a song in your heart and ecstasy in your days. They bring you gay and joyous things: tang of salt air, lilt of white sail, flash of silver spray. Life in such company becomes a gay adventure.

But to enjoy the sea wind's gift's you must go where the winds can find you, and they are shy of dusty corners and land-heated streets. One of their favorite places is the island of Nantucket, and out there they frolic at their best on that fascinating stretch of land at the island's eastern tip—called Wauwinet.

A place of moorland and storm-twisted trees, of sand dunes and waving beach grass, it flings its wild and romantic beauty far out into the open sea, where it gallantly challenges the roaring surf with its outer side, while with its inner it forms a curving arm in which nestles the tranquil harbor water.

In this magnificent spot, directly between sea and landlocked harbor and lying absolutely open to sea and sky, to space and far horizons, ceaselessly swept by the keen, clean fragrance of the salt air blown to it unhampered over thousands of miles of ocean, is situated the famous Wauwinet House and Cottages, operated by the Wauwinet Company of which Kenneth L. Taylor is the head. The direct management of inn and cottages this year is in charge of Carlos D. Smith, formerly of the Hotel Hawthorne, in Salem, and the American Hotel Corporation, and well known to all New England hotel men.

Wauwinet House has this year been entirely remodeled and redecorated and is as different in itself as in its location. Refinement and good taste have inspired its architecture and its beautiful grey-shingled Colonial lines and pillared porch, reminiscent of Mt. Vernon, have the atmosphere of a cultivated private home. Facing the harbor, it delights you with the rare sight of sunsets over the ocean, and in the harbor itself the sails and spars of the graceful sea craft—including everything from a gaff rig sloop to a yacht—belonging to the Wauwinet guests, are silhouetted against the evening sky.

Here, nightly, takes place the unusual ceremony of "Lowering the Flag," when a member of the Wauwinet Yacht Club will fire a shot and the children of the hotel guests then lower the American flag, and the yacht club flag, both of which have been raised in the morning with the same ceremony.

Inside Wauwinet House, you will look in vain for a hotel lobby, but you will be delighted instead with a charming living room in a patrician setting of unfinished pine walls, book-lined inset cupboards, oil paintings, deep chairs, inviting couches, soft rugs and glazed chintz hangings, a great hearth where firelight in the evening flickers on the soft sheen of old pewter and on the high polish of rare early American pieces.

This tasteful room sheds a true atmosphere of gracious living and was created by Mrs. Kenneth L. Taylor. The dining room overlooks the harbor and is cheerful in green chintz. The bedrooms are exquisitely furnished in ivory and pastel walls. There is running hot and cold water in each, and the beds are a joy at the end of a long day's sport.



The New Wauwinet House and Casino.



A corner of the Living Room.

Though artistry as well as comfort has been the thought in the decorative scheme, the keynote of it all has remained one of simplicity and unpretentiousness. You are here to sail, to fish, to swim or just to lie quietly on the sand and watch the changing colors of the ocean.

Clothes play a minor part in the minor part of existence, as does also social activity in its more formal aspects. You can live in slacks, or in shorts, or khaki during the day; for evening only simple changes are made. Your companions are people of taste and discrimination, friendly people who speak your own language and who, like yourself, have come to Wauwinet because they loved peace and quiet and the joys of relaxing in a secluded setting of natural beauty.

Days are filled with events of your own choosing. Bluefishing is the most famous sport, and if you are an Izaak Walton devotee you can arrange some real fun, either by "trolling" for your fish from a boat with rod and reel, or by the "heave and haul" method from a dory off-shore. Either way will give you a real thrill for a "blue," according to a Nantucketer who knows his fish "is a game fish, no matter where or how he is lured into taking hold." You can "run the rip," which is exciting, or you can "heave a drail" the full length of the line (300 feet) and work your fish in through surf.

If you want something really unique in fishing sport, Wauwinet can give you that, too—shark fishing! But you must go far, far away from shore for this, of course, but once far enough out you get a "sand shark" or a "blue-dog."

"The shark," says a Nantucket native, "is a very gentle fellow to bite, but what an ugly brute he is when he has once got a hold. He gives the bait a little nudge with his nose just to see what it's made of, and then if he likes it, takes it and flops over as delicate as you please. Don't pull yet, let your line out a little and wait until he's started to swallow it. Then throw yourself back, and pull like blazes." And the chef will broil your shark for you, if you like. It has been done and Wauwinet's guests liked it.

To get down to more tranquil pleasures. For your swim you have the unusual choice of either still water bathing or surf-bathing. The clean firm beach, directly in front of the hotel, leads to placid harbor water, while just a few yards away, if you are an intrepid soul, the breakers are waiting to give you a royal battle, and here you will find yourself

*"The joyous playthings of the winds
and waves."*

Perhaps you want to drive to Nantucket, over the lovely moorlands. To get the real thrill of these "Saul's Hills," use the ancient rutted roads that wander so unconventionally over the moors, for here you will be in the very center of a mysterious land where the changing effects of sunlight and shadow will reveal hidden beauties of low bushes of bayberry, sweet fern, wild roses, pink azalea, purple heather bells, yellow broom and green lichen carpet beneath them. If you are fortunate you will see and hear in a green hedge a

*"Lovely bird with azure wings
And song that says a thousand
things"*

and your are certain to see swift, wild rabbits and, if the fates are very kind, a wild deer will gaze at you out of soft brown eyes.

Or you can go to Nantucket by a gorgeous power cruiser which makes the round trip between town and Wauwinet twice a day, a trip which is one of the high spots of your stay.

A day like this leads inevitably to evening and the delights of the delicious food that waits for you at home in Wauwinet. Your bluefish will be served to you freshly caught, cooked the excellent Wauwinet way, which is to pan-broil them a little longer than usual, so that they are appetizingly golden-brown and crisp, and served with liberal supplies of hot lemon butter and parsley. Or there may be steamed Nantucket clams or lobster, both caught a few hours before and in the surrounding waters.

A very large farm is maintained to supply the hotel and cottages with fresh food products of every kind, and fresh vegetables from the fields are a part of the daily menu. Your beach plum jelly has been made from beach plums picked right off the bushes that line the "Pretty Path," a romantic walk leading from farm to Inn, and your breakfast blueberries come also from moorland bushes, and the cream for them from the farm is thick as English Devonshire.

The chef is P. J. Ahearn, formerly of the Lake Morey Club, Sea Cliff Inn, and other like places, and Carl Suppie, pastry chef, is famous for his freshly

made raisin bread, dainty hot rolls and rich newly-baked cakes.

Wauwinet, as it is today, has a most romantic history, which only space forbids our telling you in detail, for it starts with the story of an Indian chieftain—Wauwinet—and his daughter who loved a rival, and goes on to become known as the "Haulover" at its narrowest point where fishermen would pick up their boats and carry them across land from harbor to open sea.

Later Asa W. N. Small, a Nantucket gentleman who realized the value of the Wauwinet atmosphere, opened a small seafood place. He would catch his fresh lobsters and clams in the morning, cook them deliciously and serve them in quantities on long tables to hungry and delighted Nantucket visitors who had driven or sailed to Wauwinet.

So widespread became his fame that he was forced to expand, and with the years his daughter Linda, and her husband, James A. Backus, present owners at Wauwinet, assisted him, later taking over the work and carrying on its traditions of hospitality so well that consistent enlargements have been necessary, until today the hotel can accommodate over a hundred guests and its twenty-five cottages many more.

EXTENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS AT WAUWINET.

—The present popularity of Wauwinet is likely to be greatly increased by the improvements being made there. Mr. William M. F. Round has been on the island directing the changes in the property which he controls there. A new cottage is already far advanced toward completion. It has four bed rooms, dining room, kitchen and parlor, with a large open fire place in the latter room, and an eight-foot piazza all round. The old McCleave cottage and the Franklin Swain cottage have been purchased and extensively altered and enlarged. The Wauwinet House is being much improved and all the buildings are to be painted in the fashionable dark colors. The grounds are being put in good order, and a fine new wharf will soon be built under the direction of the Messrs. Norcross, who have leased the Wauwinet House for the coming season.

May 16, 1885

Capt. Asa W. N. Small whose death occurred on Monday last, came to Nantucket some twenty years ago to take charge of the Wauwinet house which he conducted a number of seasons. Prior to that he had commanded vessels in the East India trade and the Liverpool line of packets between that port and Boston. He was a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities and belonged in South Harwich, to which place his remains were taken for interment. He leaves a widow and two children—a son and daughter.

June 2
1894

TRIP TO THE HAULOVER.

THE WAUWINET HOUSE THE SCENE OF A PLEASANT TIME—THE MASONS, ODD FELLOWS AND DAUGHTERS OF REBEKAH INVADE THE PREMISES—A GLORIOUS SAIL UP HARBOR—THE DINNER—NOTES OF THE OCCASION.

[Reported for the Inquirer and Mirror.]

We last week noticed that Messrs. Kenney & Small of the Wauwinet House, at the Haulover, had extended an invitation to the Masons, Odd Fellows, Daughters of Rebekah and members of the press to visit them at their hotel on Wednesday last. Their kind invitation was generally accepted, and for two or three days previous to the visit guests busied themselves in preparing for the occasion.

Wednesday morning dawned clear, but by six o'clock a thick fog shut in, which bid fair to continue throughout the day, and consequently make the trip rather an unpleasant one, as far as weather was concerned. But before the hour of starting had arrived, the sun had cleared away the mist to a certain extent, and it became evident to all that the day would be a pleasant one.

The rendezvous was on the Steamboat wharf; and as early as seven o'clock, although an hour previous to the time set for the start, quite a crowd of the guests had gathered about, armed with baskets and boxes containing their donations to the physical feast, and covered with immense shade hats, already to embark for the upper harbor. The crowd continued to increase about the yachts in which they were to take passage, which were moored along the upper T, and by eight o'clock over one hundred had assembled, and awaited the summons for

THE START,

which was not given until half an hour after the hour set.

The word being given, the sails were hoisted and the boats shoved off to battle with a light wind and head tide. The fleet consisted of nine yachts, viz: Dawning Light, Freeman, Arthur Weston, Nickerson; Lillian, Smalley; Idle-wild, Burdett; Undine, Winslow; Flora Temple, Jernegan; Flor del Mar, Winslow; Favorite, Veeder; and Mable, Winslow. The fog still continued quite thick, and remained so until the fleet had arrived on the Middle Ground, which point they reached after a beat of about two hours. The wind, which had been from the northeast, veered nearly dead ahead, and the boats had it, nip and tuck, till they reached Pocomo Point, first one taking the lead, then giving way to another, until at last they were pretty well bunched. The appearance of the fleet at this point was beautiful in the extreme, tacking and running to and fro one by another. At Pocomo a little breeze sprang up, and the boats again became separated, the larger ones having to go around the shoal, the others cutting off some little distance by running through the narrow channel. Leaving Pocomo Point, the fleet were favored by a stronger breeze, and sailed along over the zig-zag course, arriving at the Haulover about one o'clock, nearly together, where the guests aboard the various boats received

A HEARTY RECEPTION

from the gentlemanly proprietors and those of their friends who had made the trip in teams. The best of the way was made from the wharf to

THE WAUWINET HOUSE,

which is but a few rods from the landing, and relieved themselves of their boxes and surplus clothing, and took a stroll about the premises to satisfy all curiosity they might have concerning the situation and general appearance of the hotel. Your correspondent was, perhaps, as much interested in this matter as the others, and a little pen picture of the place may not be uninteresting to the readers of the *Inquirer and Mirror*.

The hotel is a low, broad, one and a half story structure, situated on the southeast shore of the upper harbor, within a short distance of the outer beach, and on one of the most attractive spots to be found on the island. It commands an unobstructed view of the beautiful sheet of water before it and the opposite shore, together with a distant view of the town itself. As looked at on this occasion it presented, perhaps, an extra attraction (to a hungry man), for the sides and ends, which swing on hinges, were turned up, leaving the wind, from whatever quarter blowing, to play freely across the whole lower floor, and exposing to the view of the party two long, well-filled tables, to which they were soon to be called.

There are a number of light, airy rooms on the upper floor, lighted by dormer windows, from which a splendid view can be had. On the southeast corner of the house is fitted up a commodious cook room, which is supplied with every article necessary for cooking for large and small parties at the shortest notice. In front of the building runs a long, low bank, which is to be diked and fitted up at the first chance offered.

The above is, as near as can here be given, the looks of the place; but even this fails to give the reader any idea of the real appearance. One must see it for himself to form an idea; but the party who examined it on Wednesday were of but one mind, which was, that the proprietors have, in their hotel, just what has long been needed—a real beach house; a place where a party can feel at home, and enjoy a real Nantucket clam-bake, to which a Rhode Island bake will bear no comparison.

Having spent some time in looking about the house, the company began to collect on the green in front, and the piazza above, where they patiently awaited the summons to

DINNER.

They had not long to wait, though, for the word to take seats soon was given. It was found that even the large tables were not sufficient to accommodate the company present, therefore the younger portion gave way, and the older ones filed in, keeping time to the march played by Prof. L. H. Johnson, and were soon engaged in satisfying the cravings of the inner man with clam chowder, boiled lobster, and all sorts of pastry. The "lay-out" was indeed a magnificent one; and both old and young gave evidence of their appreciation of the cook's skill by their frequent calls for "chowder!" and the waiters were kept moving in a lively way for about an hour and a half, when the last one of the one hundred and sixty-three was satisfied, and crept off among the crowd, which had gathered outside, to accommodate Mr. Josiah Freeman, who wished to take a view of the party and house to add to his large collection. He succeeded in getting two pictures of the place, and if there be a face in either that presents a hungry look it surely cannot be the fault of the proprietors.

The company for the rest of their stay had amusement enough afforded them. When the tables had been cleared away it was given out that

A DANCE

was next in order. There was a general rush for partners, and when the music commenced, the floor was filled with dancers, who followed the promptings of Mrs. F. B. Smith, and kept time to the solid music of the piano. Plain quadrilles, polkas, waltzes, &c., gave all a chance, and everything was "as merry as a marriage bell." Some vocal music followed the dancing, in which all participated.

While the fun within was going on, those without were amusing themselves in various ways, either with croquet, "strolling on the sand" in search of shells, or over the hill to the farmhouse near.

It was nearly five o'clock when the word was given to prepare for the start, and the many present began to prepare for the homeward trip.

Capt. B. F. Brown, in behalf of the Masons, thanked Messrs. Kenney & Small for their kind invitation to be present, and proposed three cheers for the Wauwinet House, which were given with a will. In behalf of the Odd Fellows, William H. Waitt, Esq., thanked the proprietors, and another "rousin' three" were given, when the party adjourned to the wharf to start

OFF FOR HOME.

One by one the boats left with their merry freights, and by seven o'clock every boat was riding safely at her mooring.

Thus ended the day of pleasure at the Haulover, and we feel it safe to say that not one came home displeased with his short stay, and predict that the genial proprietors will enjoy a liberal share of the public patronage during the busy season.

June 17, 1876

The Wauwinet Chapel.

LAYING OF CORNER-STONE.

A GLORIOUS DAY, A PLEASANT COMPANY, AND AN IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY.

Never a fairer day dawned on Wauwinet than yesterday, and it was a great day for everybody in this fair little Hamlet. It is only a month since the project to build a chapel was broached in one of the Sunday services at the "Starcode," and already the frame of the chapel is laid out, and the corner-stone laid.

The ceremony took place at 3 o'clock yesterday. It was somewhat informal and the exercises were as follows:

Mr. W. M. F. Round, the chairman of the building committee, called the congregation to order, and the Rev. Dr. Edward Lathrop, of New York, invoked the Divine blessing. After singing, led by a choir of young people from 'Sconset, who were under the inspiring leadership of Mr. Dean Walker's cornet, and Mrs. Chittenden's voice, there was a prayer by the Rev. Daniel Round, an address by the Rev. Edward Lathrop D.D., and then the corner-stone was put in its place by the Rev. Daniel Round, the congregation standing and heartily joining in the Long Metre Doxology at the end of the ceremony. Dr. Lathrop gave a history of the movement to build the chapel, and said that it would be built as funds came in, and paid for as built. He spoke of the successful efforts of the children to raise money, thanked the people of 'Sconset for their sympathy in the past, and asked for it in the future. Rev. Mr. Round gave some interesting reminiscences of Nantucket.

After the laying of the corner-stone, the Rev. James M. Bruce of New York, made an address, in which he asked for subscriptions to the chapel fund. Mrs. Robert S. Gray of Wauwinet, is the secretary of the building committee, and will promptly acknowledge any donations that may be sent to her at Wauwinet. About fifty people were present from Siasconset, and all the boats from Nantucket were crowded with passengers.

The new Chapel is to be built about half way between Ocean and Harbor, and northeast of the Wauwinet House, on the prospective Ocean Avenue. The Chapel will be 27x35 feet in size, a plain, low structure, shingled from the gable to the sills, and stained with creosote. The design for it has been made by Mr. W. M. F. Round, and the Chapel will be built by Mr. John Norcross of Quiddnet. The children at Wauwinet have undertaken to raise the money to purchase durable oaken doors. There will be six dormer windows in the roof, and it is hoped that these will be generally given by friends of the work. A provision is being made for regular services during every Summer season.

A feature of the day at Wauwinet, was the putting up of the big nineteen foot kite, the largest in the United States. This kite was made by Mr. Joseph Hawes, a regular guest at Wauwinet. It was a magnificent sight as it rose, ruby red in color, against the masses of white clouds in the background.

Words of greeting to the new Chapel enterprise were received from the Rev. Messrs. Beal and Little, in behalf of their respective churches; the following letter was read from Miss Louise S. Baker of the North Church, Nantucket:

NANTUCKET, Aug. 23, 1888.

W. M. F. ROUND, Esq.,
Dear Sir:—I regret exceedingly that I am unable to be present at the services to-day. But in response to your kind invitation, allow me to send greetings, in behalf of our church, to the new enterprise in Wauwinet.

The "Old North," (built or being built in 1711, more than a century and a half ago) extends an affectionate welcome to the coming church by the sea. With her record of many years, she opens her heart, still young we trust, to this latest undertaking "in His name," and will hold it in tender regard. With 'Sconset's chapel and the church at the head of the harbor, our Island will be well compassed with the visible signs of our love to the Master. May His grace have course in our hearts as the tides come full upon our shores, and His power abound to have and to hold.

"And I smiled to think God's greatness flowed around our incompleteness."

Round our restlessness, His rest.

Sincerely Yours,

LOUISE S. BAKER.

The box which was placed in the corner stone bore the following inscription:

THIS BOX CONTAINS:

- 1.—A History of the Wauwinet Chapel to date.
- 2.—A list of Wauwinet Cottages and Cottagers.
- 3.—A map of Nantucket.
- 4.—Various Circulars relating to Wauwinet.
- 5.—A copy of THE INQUIRER AND MIRROR of August 18th, 1888, with the Nantucket Journal and the 'Sconset Pump and Town Crier.
- 6.—The names of the Building Committee.

Sealed by

W. M. F. ROUND,

Chairman Building Committee.

August 23, 1888.

This box was placed into a case of bricks, and a block of marble was placed upon it and sealed by Rev. Daniel Round.

A large number of people from 'Sconset attended the exercises. A procession of some half a dozen teams started from Miss Gavit's, the wagons crowded with young people who were making music with banjos, kazoots and their voices. The horses were beflagged, and from one of the wagons fluttered a flag with a whale in a white field. Among the 'Sconseters at the exercises were Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Chittenden, Misses Atterbury, Gavit, Hampton, Richardson, Tillinghast, Aldrich, Hartley, Wainwright, Farquhar, Conner, Woodford, Kellogg, Chittenden, Wood; Messrs. Chittenden, Wreaks, Hawley, Ashmore, Baker, Bliss, Taylor, Bartlett, Conner, Brown, Fox, Walker, Hampton, Burtenshaw and Spooner.

Aug. 25, 1888

WEDDING.

Mr. James A. Backus and Miss Linda B. Small, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asa W. N. Small, were married last Wednesday evening, by Rev. S. M. Beal, at the Centre Street M. E. Church, at 8 o'clock. The altar of the church was handsomely decorated with evergreen, potted plants and flowers, and on one side was wrought in green, the insignia of the order of Odd Fellows, three links, and on the other were festooned the emblematic colors of the Daughters of Rebekah, the groom and bride being members of the respective organizations, members of both of which were present in a body, the D. of R. wearing their regalia. The ushers were Messrs. R. C. Small, E. L. Gibbs, and E. G. Thomas, and the bridesmaids Misses Annie Backus, Lottie Nye and Pauline Smalley. The bridal party entered the church at the appointed hour; the bride leaning upon the arm of her brother, Mr. R. C. Small, passed down the south aisle, and the groom, accompanied by his sister, Miss Annie Backus, passing down the north aisle, while the other ushers escorted the two remaining bridesmaids down the centre aisle. The bride wore a becoming dress of white with the usual tulle veil, and at the close of the ceremony the maid of honor lifted the veil and the bridal party passed from the church by the centre aisle and took carriages for their new home on Liberty street, where a reception was held, the bride cutting the bridal loaf, which was passed to the guests present. Mr. and Mrs. Backus were the recipients of many and useful gifts, and enter upon their married life with the kind wishes of a host of friends. Among their presents were a French clock for the bride, from the D. of R. Lodge; and a writing desk in antique oak, fully equipped, and surmounted by a goat in regalia, was there for the groom, from Nantucket Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Dec 21, 1889

The Nantucket Journal

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 30, 1888.

THE WAUWINET CHAPEL.—LAYING THE CORNER STONE.—The corner stone of the little chapel to be built at Wauwinet, through the efforts of the summer sojourners at that delightful locality, was laid, on Friday afternoon last.

Mr. W. M. F. Round, the chairman of the building committee, called the congregation to order, and Rev. Dr. Edward Lathrop, of New York, invoked the Divine blessing. After singing, led by a choir of young people from Sconset, there was a prayer by the Rev. Daniel Round, an address by the Rev. Edward Lathrop, D. D., and then the corner stone was put in its place by the Rev. Daniel Round, the congregation joining in the Doxology at the end of the ceremony. Dr. Lathrop gave a history of the movement to build the chapel, and said that it would be built as funds came in, and paid for as built. Rev. Mr. Round gave some interesting reminiscences of Nantucket.

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This box was placed in a cask of bricks, and a block of marble was placed upon it and sealed by Rev. Daniel Round.

A WHALE AT WAUWINET.—A grampus whale was captured in the upper harbor near Wauwinet on Tuesday of last week by the Norcross brothers and Everett Coffin, who succeeded in getting a lance into him and he "run" with the boat nearly an hour before he weakened sufficiently to enable them to haul up to him and dispatch him, which was done by driving an axe into his head. A correspondent of the *Inquirer and Mirror* thus graphically describes the exciting event:

The grampus had been fooling around the harbor all day, and had been called all kinds of a fish by all kinds of people, who only saw its fins. The sun hung low in the west, a superb spectacle of low-lying clouds made an effective scenic background for the spectator. The grampus whale came nearer and nearer to the shore, and the Wauwinetters began to gather on the wharf. There was a flutter among the old and young whalers. A boat was launched, and lo and behold, there was no harpoon. They might, perhaps, have done something temporary with a pitchfork; but perish the thought of a whaling scene executed with a pitchfork! Everybody was asked if they had a harpoon about them. Nobody had. Several people produced cork-screws on the spur of the moment, but none had a harpoon. The ladies were appealed to. One of them confessed to having a harpoon, which she had tied up with pink ribbons, after the fashion of women and harpoons, and she loaned it with some trepidation. It was ground hastily, a boat was manned and made for the whale; the whale made for the upper harbor, and in the flurry of the moment got aground near Mr. W. F. Round's Bungalow. Here he was harpooned by Everett Coffin, and the exciting chase began—across the harbor, backward and forward, the whale spouting with a desire to make all the show possible, and the boat skimming along after him. Other boats joined the chase. The spectators on the wharf cheered. This stimulated the whale to still further exertions. He kept it up as long as he could, and when four or five men jumped onto his back to slay him, as they do in the pictures, he was ready to throw up his flippers and capitulate. He was ignominiously dragged ashore by his fluke. He measured only nine feet in length, and will probably yield about five gallons of oil. As we saw him in the water, he looked forty feet long at least. He dwindled awfully on the beach, but he was a whale!

July 21, 1887

History of the Wauwinet Trees.

My father, Mr. William F. Jones, has told me the interesting story of the Wauwinet trees and I have written here a brief history of them.

At one time there were no trees in Wauwinet. The place was wind-swept and bare except for a few "swamps". The fields and hills were bare of shrubs and had only grass on them.

My grandfather, Bassett Jones, Sr., bought our place at Wauwinet in 1881 and in 1890 began planting trees. He spent some time studying the climate and trying to find a kind of tree that would stand the wind and salt spray. Finally, he found that the island and the coast of Southern Japan had the same kind of climate and he asked the great tree expert of the Arnold Arboretum, Mr. Wilson, to bring some seeds of the black Japanese pine from Japan. Mr. Wilson brought the seeds and they were planted at the Arnold Arboretum and several years later the young trees were sent to Wauwinet and planted. This was the first planting of this kind of pine tree outside of Japan.

The young trees did well. Among them were planted other kinds—the Scotch pine, Austrian pine and Mugho pine. These would not have grown by themselves at Wauwinet but as the Japanese pines grew up, they protected the others from the wind.

The Japanese pines not only grew well but the seed from their cones began to grow into wild trees and some of the best looking trees in Wauwinet today are wild trees. This was the first time this pine tree had seeded itself outside of Japan!

Wauwinet is a very different place than it was in 1890. The trees give protection from the wind and all sorts of other trees like oaks and maples and willows thrive. Thickets of shrubbery have grown up and cover the land which used to be just open fields.

There are now many thousands of Japanese pines on Nantucket which were grown from seed taken from the original trees at Wauwinet. The first trees planted at Wauwinet have nearly reached their age limit and this year about sixty of them have been cut down so that young trees can be planted in their place.

William Jones, Jr.

March 21, 1936

EXCURSION.

THE NANTUCKET SHAKESPEARE CLUB SIESTA-
CATE AT THE WAUWINET HOUSE—EUTER-
PE, MOMUS AND TERPSICHORE RULE SU-
PREME—A PHYSICAL AND MENTAL FEAST.
[Reported for the Inquirer and Mirror.]

The excursion of the Nantucket Shakspeare Club to the Haulover came off on Tuesday last, the day appointed, and was fully attended by the members of the association and numerous friends, who left all cares behind to join in the festive occasion, and enjoy the cool breezes and picturesque scenes about the home of old Wauwinet.

The day was all that could be desired, the fog that prevailed during the early morning disappearing, and leaving the sun free to pour his warm and cheerful rays upon the land, and it was with happy hearts that the crowd of merry excursionists who were to make the trip by water crowded about the pier, ready to embark for the voyage.

The start was made about 9 o'clock in the yachts *Metamora*, *Lillian*, *Flor del Mar* and *Flora*. With a good breeze and favorable tide, the boats glided out upon the water of the harbor, and, laying their course, sped gracefully along. After a sail of about an hour and a quarter they had reached the pier, and were there welcomed by numerous friends who had come by land, also by the gentlemanly proprietors, who escorted the party to the house.

After depositing the luggage the party strolled out to take a look over the premises, which were now visited by the majority for the first time. Everything about seemed to satisfy them, and one by one they returned to the inviting shade of the hotel to rest and chat before sitting down to dinner, which was being briskly prepared in the kitchen, the savory smell of the cooking clams being carried about the house by the breeze which circulated through the lower part, giving the visitors a gentle hint of what the principal dish of the bill of fare was to be.

At 12.30 o'clock a pair of stentorian lungs announced that the meal was waiting, and the company were soon seated about the well-filled boards. Rev. C. J. K. Jones, president of the club, requested all present to stand while Rev. A. B. Whipple asked a blessing, after which all joined in singing a stanza of "Auld Lang Syne." Then the manual of knife and fork was resorted to. The steaming chowder, with "all the fixings" was excellent and highly-enjoyed, and for an hour all were busily engaged in satisfying the cravings of the "inner man," who was made more clamorous, perhaps, by the short rocking "on the deep" or the brisk jolting received on land.

Dinner over, numerous toasts were given, and the company listened to various exercises. The first in order was the following poem from the pen of Miss L. S. Baker, who also read it to the party:

My dream: a shower of tones,
In triplets dashed the air.
The wavelets on what stones
They struck, made music there.
And where the spot was seen,
Each drop had rubies seven,
The very air was sheer
Of gold—like dust of heaven.

But best, the music live,
Contained a soul therein;
The sweets of honeyed hive
Made incarnate within.

Thence came a form; with flowers
Enwrapped; pale rose their hues,
Gold-hearted—as from bowers,
Of Eden, with its dews.

The hands held coral sprays of red
Incarnadined in sunset glows;
And white, whereto the moon had read
Her tale of love, till the answer shows.

Flowers everywhere, of passioned hue
Purpled with pain; dark-shaded, too,
And light, all rippled through with pink,
Wherein a fragrance soft would sink.

The sea its laureled moss had bound
About his brow, and trailed around
All that could sweets distill or share
Of beauty to a form so fair.

The face not mine to word.
Ineffable the power,
Almost divine, the Lord
Gave on his natal hour.

Now swift to me or erst
The lips can fully ope,
Sublimest strains have burst,
Which harmonies invoke.

The palpitating air
Seems as 'twould break
Its heart; and then and there
O'erjoyed, its own life take.

Give up with quick delight
Its trust to follow him
Who painted in full sight
Its life—to itself dim.

Who gave such power as came in force for him,
To draw a Lear's heart, and on the rim
To tap the golden bowl until it break,
And leave the outpoured blood for us to take!

Who figured Lady Macbeth with such hideous strength,
That, shuddering, we recoil, until at length,
Half fainting both with hate and fear, she seems
Beside Cordelia's faith, a prodigy of dreams.

Whence is the poet? Can one tell me here?
Inform the essence with its kingly name?
No greater can you speak than our *Shakespeare*,
No nobler one is known of us to fame.

Mrs. J. J. Fish, chairman of the committee of arrangements, then called upon Miss Charlotte P. Baxter, who responded with the following excellent original piece, reading it in a manner that elicited warm applause:

As backward Time doth point his hand,
Across a century's glory,
All eyes are turned, and all our land
Repeats the wondrous story.

In retrospection all can see
The deeds of our great nation;
And all rejoice, from those made free
To those of highest station.

Then, seated by our own fireside,
Each hears, in dim tradition,
Some tale that he may claim with pride
And joyful recognition.

And farther back we look and see,—
Far back across the ages,—
Brave deeds once done on land or sea,
Unknown to History's pages.

Now backward let us turn our gaze;
For here, beside the ocean,
The waves might tell of other days,
As they toss in ceaseless motion.

In the days almost forgotten;
In the days before our island
Heard the tread of whitemen's footsteps,
Heard the stir of active commerce,
Saw the gleaming sails of vessels—
In those days almost forgotten—
On our island dwelt the red men,
Long they dwelt in peace together,
Following out their daily callings,
Broke the land, and fished or hunted;
And at night beside the wigwam,
When the South wind, Shawondasee,
From his home of warmth and beauty,
Breathed upon them in the stillness
Of the peaceful summer evening,
There they smoked the pipe together,
Fashioned there the heads of arrows,
Into baskets wove the willow,
And when from the land of Winter,
From the land of cold and darkness,

Came the drear Kabilonokka,
Came the dreary, cruel North Wind,
Then within the wigwam, seated,
By the cheerful, blazing firewood,
There they told strange tales and legends;
Or, with greatest skill and cunning,
Carved from pieces of the pine tree
Bowls and spoons of strange devices.

On the east side of the island—
Where they said from out the waters
Spoke the voice of the great Spirit—
Dwelt the tribe of old Wauwinet.
Well beloved was this great Sachem;
Well beloved of all his people;
And they listened to his counsels,
And they hearkened to his wisdom.
Dear to him were all his people;
But of all, the nearest, dearest,
Was his daughter, was Wonomma.
She, the handiwork of women;
She, the loveliest and the gentlest.
Well she knew the art of healing;
Skilled was she in all the uses
Of the herbs that grew around them,
And, whenever from the waters
Spoke the voice of the Great Spirit,
She could tell unto her people
What the words were, and their meaning.

On the west side of the island,
And upon the hills Popequasotot,
Dwelt the tribe of brave Autopsot.
He, the young, the learned, the noble,
He, the pride of all his people
For his learning and his goodness.
Once, when Fever came among them,
Laid his hand, so hot and blating,
On the bravest and the wisest,
Then it was that their Autopsot,
Hearing of the young Wonomma—
Hearing of her art in healing—
Sent a messenger unto her,
Praying her to come and save them
From the cruel, blating Fever.
With the messenger Wonomma,
While the morning star shone brightly,
Smiling at its own reflection
Mirrored in the calm, still waters,
From her home went forth Wonomma;
And she came among the people
Dying with the cruel fever,
And she cooled the burning forehead,
Words of comfort spake she to them,
And she healed them and she saved them.
This great people learned to love her,
Looked upon her as their saviour;
And they prayed her tarry with them
That they might, in some way, show her
How they blessed her for her goodness,
For the boon of life she gave them.
Then Autopsot, their great Sachem,
Spoke and said unto Wonomma:
"O, Wonomma, ever cherished
Will thy name be by my people!
And I pray you listen to them—
Listen to the prayer they utter;
For their sakes I pray you listen;
But above all, for my own sake,
For the great love that I bear you."
And Wonomma answered, smiling,
That her people she loved his people,

But more truly loved their leader,
She would come again among them—
Come again to go not from them.

Would you know, then I would tell you
How the pleasant, friendly feeling,
Which so long a time existed
Twixt the tribe of old Wauwinet
And the people of Autopsot,
Changed to hard and angry feelings,
Then to feelings of deep hatred,
Till a war arose between them;
And the land was wrapped in darkness
From the war cloud resting o'er them.
Would you know, then I would tell you
How the cause of this contention,
Was the slightest, was most trivial;
How the feelings of great hatred
Simply grew from a discussion
In regard to the possession
Of the land that lay between them.
But Wauwinet, the great Sachem,
Tiring of this needless bloodshed,
Called in council round about him
Many of his wisest warriors;
And they laid a plan most subtle,
How they might, when least expected,
Steal upon that Western people,
Capture them, and make them prisoners.
I would tell you how Wonomma
Chanced to overhear this council;
How she listened, almost spell-bound
By the words she heard them utter.
And the first thought that came to her
Was the thought that she must save him,
Must, in some way, save her lover.
Much she knew she loved her father;
But much more she loved Autopsot.
She would brave all things to save him;
Even risk her life, if need be.
When her people all were sleeping,
Forth she stole, from out her wigwam;
To the water quickly sped she,
Launched her boat, and in the darkness
Rowed with greatest skill and caution
Toward the people she was saving.
Very dark the night seemed to her,
And she prayed the Mighty Father
That He would in safety guide her
To the people she was saving.
Then, as if her prayer were answered,
Slowly up from out the waters
Rose the moon, in all its beauty,
Giving light unto her pathway,
To her heart the needed courage.
Very tireless was the journey,
And her strength almost exhausted
When she reached a place of landing,
When, upon the shining beach sand,
She might leave her boat in safety.
Then a long and weary distance,
Over rough and thorny places,
Onward, through the dreadful stillness,
She must keep her journey westward,
Though her feet were torn and bleeding,
And her brain seemed madly burning.
Yet the thought that she must save him
Urged her onward, ever onward,
Till she came among that people—
Till she knew that she had saved them.

Then the gentlest of the women
Bathed her feet, so torn and bleeding,
Cooled them with the healing ointment,
Bade her rest within the wigwam
While Autopsot called his people;
That when, with the morrow's dawning,
Came the people from the eastward,
They might be prepared to meet them.
When Wauwinet with his warriors
Left his home beside the waters,
Very sure he felt of victory—
Sure that he would take as captive
All the tribe of brave Autopsot.
Then when they had yielded to him
What they claimed as their possession
In the land that lay between them,
He would free them, and in kindness
Leave them then their just possessions.
When he reached that mighty people,
Saw them there prepared to meet him,
For a moment fixed he stood there,
Knowing some one had betrayed him—
Knowing that his scheme so subtle
Was o'erthrown by one still subtler.
Then he turned, and with his warriors
Slowly then retraced his footsteps—
Slowly journeyed to the eastward,
To his home beside the waters.

Now the day was slowly dying;
And its beauty slowly deepened
Till it reached its great perfection;
And the earth, and sky, and water
Shone with all its radiant splendor,
As we've seen on some loved faces
Rest the glory of the future.
Slowly then, and still more slowly
From the earth, and sky, and water
Passed away this radiant splendor;
And the grey mists of the evening
Slowly rose from land and water
Till they wrapped the hills and valleys
Round about in their night coverings.
In the hush and calm of twilight,
With his eyes still looking westward,
By the doorway of his wigwam
Stood the Sachem, stood Wauwinet.
Soon upon the evening stillness
Broke the sound of coming footsteps;
And he saw a form approaching,
Saw the face of brave Autopsot.
Then the young man slowly bending,
In his eyes great longing, pleading,
Spoke, and said unto Wauwinet,
"O, my father, O, most noble,
Dark have been the days about us,
And still darker have the nights been;
In our hearts the darkest hatred;
Hear me speak, O, mighty father,
For the love I bear Wonomma,
For the love she bears her father;
She it was who gave me warning;
Told me of your plan to conquer.
O, my father; O, most noble,
For the love we bear Wonomma,
For the sake of both our people,
May there not be peace between us?"
While Autopsot had been speaking,
O'er the face of old Wauwinet
Spread the shadow of great anger;
And, in silence, long he stood there,
And the breeze came from the pine trees,
And the sound of breaking waters
Rose and fell in rhythmic cadence,
Breathing peace from the Great Spirit.
From the face of old Wauwinet
Passed away this cloud of anger;
In his heart he felt the influence
Of the peace that reigned about them;
And he spoke unto Autopsot
In the tones of friendly feeling
Saying, "O, my son Autopsot,
Great has been the lesson taught me
That I myself am not almighty;
That there is a power beyond me
Unto which I have to yield me.
Great the love I bear Wonomma,
And, if she so truly loves you,
There should only be between us
Words and thoughts that are most friendly."
Then these two great Indian Sachems,

Who had been such bitter foemen,
Clasped each other's hand in friendship,
And that night, before they parted,
They had made a just division
Of the land so long disputed.
And they pledged that ever after
Only peace should reign between them;
And that this should be more certain,
And the homes they so much cherished
Should be ever prosperous, peaceful,
Old Wauwinet gave his daughter—
Gave the dearest of his treasures
To the young and brave Autopsot.

Many moons have come and vanished
Since the last of these great people
Went upon his homeward journey
To the kingdom of Ponema,
To the land of the Hereafter,
But their earthly home, so cherished,
Still is left us; and I pray you,
While to-day beside the waters,
Near the home of old Wauwinet,
We are resting from our labors,
Leaving every care behind us,
Let us think of that great Sachem,
And renew the pledge he uttered—
That his home be so much cherished
Shall be ever prosperous, peaceful.

At the conclusion of Miss Baxter's reading Miss Susie Starbuck read with fine effect a poem written by Rev. A. B. Whipple, which was then sung by Mr. B. G. Tobey, the company joining in the last two stanzas. The following is the poem:

Once more we start a favorite tune,
As rolling as the ocean,
And ask each member to express
In song his glad emotion.

We sing the skippers and their mates,
The yachts that we came East-on,
The weather fair and every thing
The mind and eye can feast on.

We're thankful for the pleasant sail
Of ex-tended sons and daughters,
And for the unomitted scenes
Since landing from the waters.

Now To-be happy all the day
We need not be omniscient,
Nor Wood we ask for less of Joy
When we have suf-Fish-ent.

Miss "Nancy took it" is the song
Our company makes lyric;
The King himself may whistle it
And all mermals ad-Myrick.

Will Shakespeare made some Marshall hymns,
And all his children want 'em;
They help to Sharpen every wit,
And just the things for Squantums.

To-day, well trimmed, we hither came,
Delighted every minute,
And not the most unwelcome part
Was dinner at Wauwinet.

The lobster, chowder or the clam,
Had something splay in it,
That seems to stir the inner man
In favor of Wauwinet.

No act or scene in this day's play
Seemed best to be omitted;
Each one has done his very best,
And all are "benefitted."

O, Shakespeare was a model man,
We had his play with pleasure,
We'll play it "as we like" it too,
Contented with his "measure."

A vote was now passed by the club that the party should take tea at the hotel.

The exercises over, there was a general stampede for the outer world, and within ten minutes hardly a person was to be seen in the immediate vicinity of the house. Many had gone to the beach near by, some were enjoying themselves in boats, while the remainder were widely scattered.

After about an hour the pleasure-seekers began to put in an appearance, and soon the strains of the piano, played by Mr. L. H. Johnson, were heard, and light feet went tripping about in the merry polka and mazy waltz. The weather was somewhat warm for a long continuance of this generally much-admired part of the programme, and the company contented themselves with sitting about the dining hall and joining in singing various songs, Mr. B. G. Tobey accompanying the pianist with his violin. The time passed pleasantly and quickly, and at half-past four the tables were prepared for supper. Baked and steamed clams, lobster, &c., was the order for this meal, and it was partaken of with a will, showing that the cruise over the hills and on the water had the effect to sharpen the appetites so recently appeased. After tea a vote of thanks was tendered the skippers for their kindness in bringing the party to the spot, and the preparations for returning home were made.

The boats arrived in town, after a somewhat tedious trip; but all were pleased with their cruise and eager to visit the spot again, when opportunity offered.

June 24, 1876

For the Inquirer and Mirror.

The Haulover Project.

MESSENGERS. EDITORS:—The writer in the last issue of your paper on the Nantucket Bar, seems to have persuaded himself that he knows all about the shifting channels over the Bar, and just what effect the cutting of a ship-channel at the Head of the Harbor would have upon Hussey's Shoal and the west side of the harbor. He further seems to think there are other objections which the movers in this project have not thought of. Well, let us see, all the propositions he has suggested I will venture to say have been fully canvassed, and many others which he has not suggested, and, "perhaps not thought of." If he thinks the proposed cut at the Haulover, is only for the purpose of seeing whether it will deepen the water on the Bar, he is about as near bottom as any Coaster ever got without losing his vessel; and he will have to sound in another direction to find water enough to float again. Now I come to his knowledge of currents, and I quote his words: "Whenever you create a new current running down from the Head of the Harbor, then all the shoals and flats between Brant Point and the Haulover, including Hussey's Shoal, will be gradually washed down and fill up the west side of the harbor, and completely ruin what little wharf accommodation you have there now."

How can your correspondent know that a new current is to be created running down from the head? Why not a new current running up? Tides run both ways in most places. It runs up and down now, as often as it rises and falls; but, what the effect would be with an opening at the upper end, the experienced engineers who have made surveys there cannot determine with anything like the positiveness of your Coaster.

The Coast Survey Department, through Prof. Mitchell, says: "There are few cases where a community has less to lose from the failure, or more to gain from the success of an experiment. A passage way through the beach would build up the fishing-interests of the place. It would also be an avenue for pilots carrying hope and assistance to vessels bewildered among the shoals, and for life-boats on errands of mercy." The advisory board of Harbor Commissioners in 1872, referred to this subject as follows: "This experiment we hope to see tried; and while we should expect no great effect upon the Bar at the main entrance, even if the opening at the Haulover should be maintained, we can anticipate only benefits. We repeat, that the experiment at the Haulover is worth an earnest trial, and that some benefit elsewhere, but no injury anywhere, may be anticipated." Prof. Mitchell, in his report of 1871, is of the opinion that by making a cut through the beach at the Haulover, a circulation through the harbor would be created which would deepen the water on the bar. He doubtless calculated upon a current both ways. My juvenile boating experience in the vicinity of Coatee, which is quite fresh upon my mind even to this day, once demonstrated that there was a rapid current when the tide was going out. Your Coaster may conclude that with an opening at the head this velocity would be increased, but I think otherwise. The water now has no outlet but by Brant Point and Coatee. With an opening at the other end no such current could be formed, and the difference between the tides outside and inside now observable, would be more or less neutralized, as the currents outside at the Haulover are less rapid than at any other part of the island, making it a slack-water region for a large part of the time. The bombulation about a draw bridge and a big sum for the town to pay are subjects which I do not care to follow, further than to say that it is arrant nonsense, and particularly so from a person who declares that he don't believe the cut can be kept open. The petition for the cut which has been numerously signed here, has also been seconded by all the principal insurance companies of New York, and if it is pushed with any determination on the part of our citizens the experiment may be tried. And the money expended upon the experiment would greatly benefit Nantucket. One great reason why an appropriation has not been made before for this purpose, has doubtless been owing to Coasters and Croakers knowing so much more than experienced engineers upon this subject.

PROGRESS.

WAUWINET ITEMS.

A NEW STEAMER—GREAT IMPROVEMENTS.

There is abundant promise of a rapid growth at Wauwinet during the summer to come, and a factor in that growth will be a new boat that is to be put on the route between "Town" and the Haulover. This boat will be run by Mr. Herbert R. Snyder, her owner, and will make three trips to Wauwinet daily—probably laying up at night at that place. She is 30 feet long, 6½ feet beam, and draws but 2 feet of water. She is furnished with a naphtha engine of 8½ horse power, finished in mahogany, and furnished throughout with life-preserver cushions. She was built by Gould & Co., for Mr. Louis Lorillard, and cost \$2000. She has cabin, retiring room and water closet, and is in all respects a model boat. She will run with special reference to the needs of the Wauwinet settlement, and may be considered a part of the general scheme for the development of that popular place.

Mr. John B. Norcross is engaged upon a house for Mr. W. M. F. Round, who has already rented the same to Mrs. Joseph Warren, of Albany.

The work on the new bathing pavilion at Wauwinet will be begun at once. It is also to be built by Mr. John B. Norcross. It will have ten bath rooms and a bazaar, in which bath suits, pails and shovels, bric-a-brac, and other articles will be sold. There will be a wide piazza toward the harbor, amply provided with seats, and the whole will furnish a new and desirable feature of Wauwinet life. Mr. Howard Thurston, of Mt. Hermon, Mass., will have charge of the pavilion.

The President of the Wauwinet Chapel trustees has received a sum of money to pay for the immediate flooring of this little house of worship. A fair in aid of the Chapel and to obtain funds for its completion will be held at Wauwinet during the summer.

The Hon. Robert S. Gray, of Walpole, Mass., has rented "Winklehut" for the season.

Mar. 16, 1889

EXTENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS AT WAUWINET.

—The present popularity of Wauwinet is likely to be greatly increased by the improvements being made there. Mr. William M. F. Round has been on the island directing the changes in the property which he controls there. A new cottage is already far advanced toward completion. It has four bed rooms, dining room, kitchen and parlor, with a large open fire place in the latter room, and an eight-foot piazza all round. The old McCleave cottage and the Franklin Swain cottage have been purchased and extensively altered and enlarged. The Wauwinet House is being much improved and all the buildings are to be painted in the fashionable dark colors. The grounds are being put in good order, and a fine new wharf will soon be built under the direction of the Messrs. Norcross, who have leased the Wauwinet House for the coming season.

May 16, 1885

WAUWINET LETTER.

A GRAMPUS WHALE CAUGHT AT WAUWINET.

MESSENGERS. EDITORS:—It is the pride of Wauwinet that after the last boat goes down, it lapses into a state of serene repose—a dreamy *dolce far niente* life—an unconventional, happy-go-easy existence, without excitement, with only rest. But nevertheless, Wauwinet has its occasional excitement. But nothing that is not unique pleases Wauwinet. The people who live in this little hamlet have seen the world—the ordinary excitements of mere bought-and-paid-for shows pall upon them. Babylon might fall at Nantucket town, and they would not lift their telescope to read the writing on the wall, because "The Fall of Babylon" is merely an incident of the show world at fifty cents a head; it is done nightly! Nothing that can be done nightly has an iota of interest for Wauwinet.

But you can't have a whale fishing spectacle nightly! Mr. William Norcross is too busy a man to drive a whale into the harbor every day, much as he strives to please his guests.

The grampus had been fooling around the harbor all day, and had been called all kinds of a fish by all kinds of people, who only saw its fins. The sun hung low in the west, a superb spectacle of low-lying clouds made an effective scenic background for the spectacle. The grampus whale came nearer and nearer to the shore, and the Wauwineters began to gather on the wharf. There was a flutter among the old and young whalers. A boat was launched, and lo and behold, there was no harpoon. They might, perhaps, have done something temporary with a pitchfork; but perish the thought of a whaling scene executed with a pitchfork! Everybody was asked if they had a harpoon about them. Nobody had. Several people produced cork-screws on the spur of the moment, but none had a harpoon. The ladies were appealed to. One of them confessed to having a harpoon, which she had tied up with pink ribbons, after the fashion of women and harpoons, and she loaned it with some trepidation. It was ground hastily, a boat was manned and made for the whale; the whale made for the upper harbor, and in the flurry of the moment got aground near Mr. W. F. Round's Bungalow. Here he was harpooned by Everett Coffin, and the exciting chase began—cross the harbor, backward and forward, the whale spouting with a desire to make all the show possible, and the boat skimming along after him. Other boats joined the chase. The spectators on the wharf cheered. This stimulated the whale to still further exertions. He kept it up as long as he could, and when four or five men jumped onto his back to slay him, as they do in the pictures, he was ready to throw up his flippers and capitulate. He was ignominiously dragged ashore by his fluke. He measured only nine feet in length, and will probably yield about five gallons of oil. As we saw him in the water, he looked forty feet long at least. He dwindled awfully on the beach, but he was a whale! Go to! has Sconset ever caught a whale in the harbor? Has ever Nantucket town furnished such a spectacle for its guests? It is nothing for Wauwinet. Last year it was the largest and most beautiful "Portuguese man-of-war," most lovely of the *Medusidae*, this year a whale, and if possible to obtain one at any cost, the next attraction will be a gigantic *Octopus* with tentacles thirty feet long, and a realistic spectacle after the description by Victor Hugo.

DRIFT-STUFF.

Mr. Bassett Jones has surrounded his place with a neat rustic fence, and set out a number of trees by way of experiment. With the numerous cottages that will soon break the force of the winds at Wauwinet, it is hoped that trees will grow there. Mr. Round has recently consulted the Arboreal Bureau of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, as to the trees most likely to grow here, and the best authorities as to grasses with which to redeem beach lands. Plans are on foot for experiments in both directions.

Miss Willie Lewis, accompanied by Miss Mary Baker, arrived at the Wauwinet House, Tuesday. She will remain through the season.

Mr. W. H. Norcross, of the Wauwinet House, invited all his guests and neighbors to a sail on Wednesday evening. There was a fine breeze, and about twenty of the Wauwinet people availed themselves of Mr. Norcross's invitation, and had a charming sail.

The cottagers have found the beach-side bathing so pleasant that bath-houses are being built and life lines put out. The seer of Wauwinet sees in the future a handsome bathing pavilion on both the harbor and ocean sides.

WHALING IN THE UPPER HARBOR.

On Tuesday last the cottagers at Wauwinet were startled by the unusual cry of "There she blows!" and shortly afterward the beach was lined with people, eager to see the cause of the disturbance. The reason soon became apparent, for when but a short distance from the shore the supposed whale came to the surface and "spouted." In a short time a boat was manned by Norcross brothers and Everett Coffin, who proceeded to the "grounds." After a few manoeuvres boatheader Coffin succeeded in putting a lance into the leviathan, and then the fun began. The boat was towed through the water at a lively rate, and when the fish would suddenly change his course it was with much difficulty that the occupants of the boat kept their seats. After about an hour of this kind of fun (for those on shore) the grampus (as it proved to be) began to show signs of weakness, and in a few moments the boat was near enough to enable the boatheader, by a powerful blow, to sink an axe into the grampus' head, which ended the cruise. It was about 9 feet in length. This is the second fish of this species taken in these waters within the past two weeks.

July 16, 1887

July 16, 1887

WAUWINET



The Hamlet of Wauwinet, at the Head of Nantucket Harbor.

WAUWINET ISLAND OF NANTUCKET, MASS.

Distance from town of Nantucket,
nine miles; by water, seven miles.

TO RENT, the very desirable beautifully located sea-side bungalow, "Spindrift," thoroughly equipped and furnished for summer or permanent housekeeping.

The grounds are an acre and a half in extent completely fenced in with a frontage of 225 feet on the harbor. The building stands fifty feet back from the beach on rising ground, and consists of seven bed-rooms, large and capacious parlor, dining room, kitchen and abundant closet accommodation; all plastered. A broad and shady piazza, facing water, enclosed with sliding awnings. Open fireplaces in parlor and dining room for burning coal, wood or peat. Copper wire fly screens to all windows. Large collection of books suitable for sea-side reading. Kitchen fitted up with every convenience and requisite for culinary purposes, is cool, well ventilated and lighted and contains large portable cooking range, Lorillard refrigerator, dresser closets, drawers, galvanized iron sink, etc. Sink connects with ventilated earthen-ware grease trap. Pump to driven well, with never failing supply of cool delicious pure water in rustic porch adjoining kitchen. Tanks containing fifteen hundred gallons of rain water, for laundry use, supplied from roof. Detached privy with water tight cemented vault; a roomy barn; coal and wood shed; 2 bath houses on beach; private wharf. Connections with town by water twice a day. Housekeeping easy, simple and pleasant. Fine sailing, good fishing and clamming. Surf bathing in ocean, and still water bathing in harbor, perfectly safe; an ideal place for children and a haven of rest for the overworked.

For rent, plans, photographs and further particulars, apply to A. T. MOWRY, Main St., Nantucket, or to JAMES A. BACKUS, Wauwinet, Nantucket.

a3-2m



Wauwinet Ferry-boat Lillian.

Pictured The "Lillian."

The Wauwinet boat "Lillian" and her genial skipper Capt. Arthur Westgate Jones, received a first-page position on the Boston Post's pictorial sheet last Friday. It was an excellent photo of the "Lillian," too, showing the boat just as she was running up to the pier at Wauwinet. Beneath the picture the Post gave the following explanatory note:

Steers Both Ship of State and Nantucket Ferry.

Capt. Arthur Jones, the Nantucket representative to the Massachusetts General Court, is also the master of the ferry "Lillian." The ferry runs from the harbor of Nantucket to Wauwinet on the inner shore of the island. Reports say Cap'n Arthur has obtained more from the Legislature for the island than any of his predecessors.

July, 1922

June 5, 1897

WAUWINET HOUSE. HAULOVER. Nantucket, Mass.



This popular shore house has been thoroughly repaired and partially refurnished, and will open for the season Tuesday, July 1st. An improvement will be made in the service and cuisine over previous seasons. Shore Dinners daily. Special dinners served on short notice. Boats for SHARK-FISHING are run in connection with the house. Telephone connection. A few regular boarders accommodated. The popular sailing yacht Lillian, Capt. C. E. Smalley, and a new and commodious twin-screw steamer will run regularly to this resort.

Je21t WILLIAM H. NORCROSS, Manag'r.

July 26, 1890

Wauwinet House

Head of the Harbor,

Open for the season on and after
Wednesday July 1.

SHORE DINNERS A SPECIALTY, 50 cts.

Broiled live lobsters to order.

A few regular boarders accommodated
Telephone connection.

JAMES A. BACKUS, Proprietor,

Je27 sea

1903

YACHT LILLIAN,

CAPT. C. E. SMALLEY,



WILL make two trips daily (wind and weather permitting) from Steamboat Wharf to the Wauwinet House, commencing Wednesday, June 20. Time of leaving, about 9 A. M. and 2 P. M. Fare 20 cents.

1888



A VIEW OF WAUWINET FROM THE AIR.

WAUWINET HOUSE,

HAUOVER,
Nantucket, Mass.

WILL be open for the season July 1st. Everything about the house will be maintained first-class, and Shore Dinners will be supplied to parties on short notice. Special dinners served at reasonable rates. A few regular boarders accommodated. Telephone connection with Nantucket.

William H. Norcross.

je21 sea

1893

Wauwinet House

HAUOVER,
NANTUCKET - - - MASS.

WILL be open Saturday, July 2d, for the season. SHORE DINNERS will be our specialty, and will be furnished at any hour of the day. Special parties supplied on brief notice. Excellent bathing facilities are connected with the house, and furnish surf or smooth water bathing.

JAMES A. BACKUS, Proprietor.

je2 sea

1898

WAUWINET HOUSE,

HAUOVER,
NANTUCKET, MASS.

WILL be open for the season June 30. Everything about the house will be maintained first-class, and Shore Dinners will be supplied to parties on short notice. Special dinners served at reasonable rates. A few regular boarders accommodated. Telephone connection with Nantucket.

WILLIAM H. NORCROSS.

je30-sea

1894



WAUWINET HOUSE - CASINO - BAR and CLAM BAR

DANCING 9:00 P. M. -- 1:00

LUNCHEON and DINNER

served from 12 noon to midnight

Tel. 145 for reservations.

1941

For Sale.

THE WAUWINET HOUSE,

AT THE HAUOVER,



head of the harbor, is for sale. For terms and particulars apply to

A. W. N. SMALL,
Wauwinet House.

Feb. 4, 1882

Wauwinet House

Head of the Harbor

Open for the season on and after
Wednesday, June 26.

SHORE DINNERS A SPECIALTY.

Accessible by land and water. The sailing yacht Lillian runs regular trips to the Wauwinet House, leaving Nantucket at 9 a. m. and 2 p. m. Leaves Wauwinet at 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. Telephone connection.

je21

JAMES A. BACKUS, Prop.

1902

Wauwinet House

The Popular Shore
Dinner Resort

Open July 2 for the reception of permanent and transient guests.

SHORE DINNERS a Specialty 75 cents

Special accommodations for
pleasure parties.

JAMES A. BACKUS, Prop.

Telephone connection.

je2 sea

1910

THE WAUWINET HOUSE,

NANTUCKET.

(HEAD OF THE HARBOR.)

OPEN FOR BOARDERS JUNE 20th, 1882.

THE Wauwinet House has been much improved during the past year, the bed-rooms have been remodeled and refurnished, a new dining room for regular boarders has been arranged, and the place has been rendered thoroughly comfortable in all respects.

AT WAUWINET

there is a sea breeze which ever way the wind blows. There is both surf bathing and still water bathing. It is a perfectly safe place for children, and the healthiest place on the island for invalids, and the most restful place for those who are tired out.

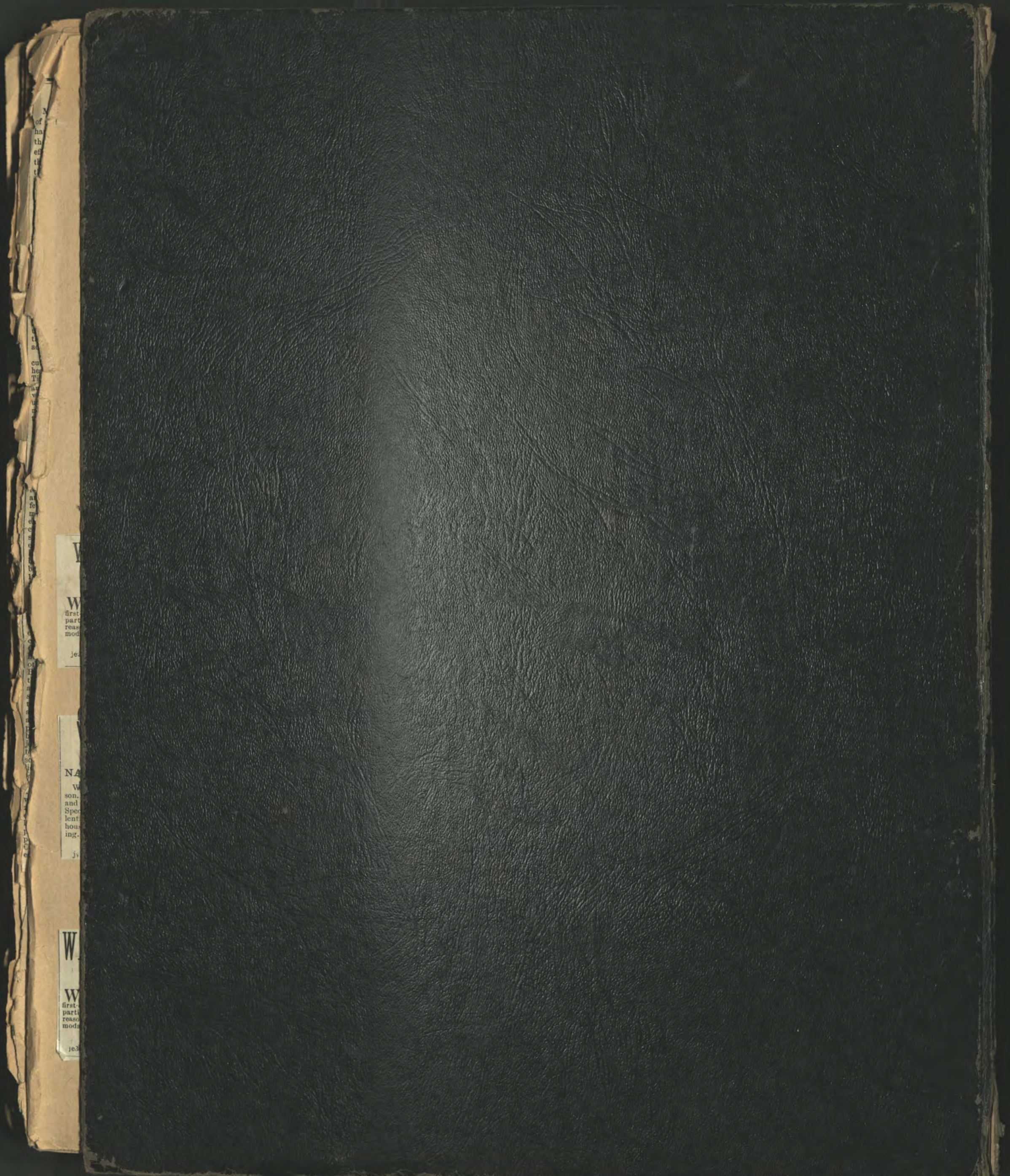
As the hotel accommodations include but a small number of rooms, arrangements for board should be made at once. Address,

A. W. N. SMALL, Manager,
Nantucket, Mass.

Fish and Clam Dinners a Specialty.

1882





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